DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 121 554 RC 009 160

TITLE	Texas Migrant Labor. 1975 Annual Report.
INSTITUTION	Good Neighbor Commission of Texas, Austin.
PUB DATE	75
NOTE	77p.; For related document, see ED 106 043
EDRS PRICE	MF-$0.83 HC-$4.67 Plus Postage
DESCRIPTORS	*Agricultural Laborers; *Annual Reports; Bilingual Education; Educational Programs; Employment Patterns; Foreign Workers; Health Programs; Housing; Illegal Immigrants; Legislation; Mexican Americans; *Migrant Workers; Migration; *Program Descriptions; *Socioeconomic Influences; State Agencies
IDENTIFIERS	Good Neighbor Commission; *Texas

ABSTRACT

The Good Neighbor Commission of Texas coordinates the work of the Federal, State, and local government toward the improvement of travel and living and working conditions of Texas migrant laborers and their families. Covering the full spectrum of migrant labor activity directly related to the improvement of the well-being of migrant and seasonal farmworkers, the 1975 annual report chronicles the facts, conditions, and circumstances which focus on the socioeconomic plight of migrant families on a yearly basis. Statistical information which can be useful for the development of programs in addressing the migrant's needs is included. A brief overview of the Texas migrant laborer is given. The report also discusses Texas agriculture and migrant labor, alien labor and immigration, and various selected agencies and programs. Current developments in education education, housing, health, transportation, and labor unions are presented. A review of all the migrant legislation passed and rejected from the 54th legislative session to the present concerning migrant and seasonal farmworkers in the areas of health, education, housing, transportation, and welfare and social services is also presented. (NQ)

****
* Documents acquired by ERIC include many informal unpublished *
* materials not available from other sources. ERIC makes every effort *
* to obtain the best copy available. Nevertheless, items of marginal *
* reproducibility are often encountered and this affects the quality *
* of the microfiche and hardcopy reproductions ERIC makes available *
* via the ERIC Document Reproduction Service (EDRS). EDRS is not *
* responsible for the quality of the original document. Reproductions *
* supplied by EDRS are the best that can be made from the original. *
****

rec 18-05-76

1975 TEXAS MIGRANT LABOR REPORT

U S DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION & WELFARE
NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF EDUCATION

THIS DOCUMENT HAS BEEN REPRODUCED EXACTLY AS RECEIVED FROM THE PERSON OR ORGANIZATION ORIGINATING IT. POINTS OF VIEW OR OPINIONS STATED DO NOT NECESSARILY REPRESENT OFFICIAL NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF EDUCATION POSITION OR POLICY.

ED121554

RC009160

GOOD NEIGHBOR COMMISSION OF TEXAS

TEXAS MIGRANT LABOR ANNUAL REPORT 1975

CONTENTS

Chapter		Page
I.	The Migrant Farmworker—An Overview	1
II.	Current Developments	5
	A. Education	5
	B. Housing	19
	C. Health	25
	D. Transportation	34
	E. Labor Unions and Organizing	35
III.	Agriculture and Migrant Labor	39
IV.	Alien Labor and Immigration	47
V.	Review of Migrant Legislation	57
VI.	Selected Programs and Agencies	65

THE GOOD NEIGHBOR COMMISSION OF TEXAS - 1975

M. M. Vicars, Chairman
P. O. Box 3081
Brownsville, Texas 78520

Mrs. Annie Laura Day, Vice Chairman
614 Gresham
Brookshire, Texas 77423

Dan R. Eddy, Jr.
P. O. Box 2608
Dallas, Texas 75221

Xico P. Garcia, M.D.
309 Palma Plaza North
Corpus Christi, Texas 78404

Henry A. Guerra, Jr.
602 W. Houston
San Antonio, Texas 78207

Dorrance H. Guy
P. O. Drawer 20
El Paso, Texas 79999

Aubrey N. Kline
7600 Broadway
San Antonio, Texas 78209

Mrs. Randall F. Nye
P. O. Drawer R
Rio Grande City, Texas 78582

Steve A. Lillard
Rte. 1, Box 280-0
Laredo, Texas 78040

Staff:
Oscar M. Laurel, Executive Director
Henry Sanchez, Deputy Director
Eddie Aurispa, Coordinator of Migrant Affairs
Sherry Davis, Executive Secretary-P.A.S.F.
Matt Goode, Admininstrative Secretary
Della Garcia, Secretary
Carmen Zavala, Clerk-Typist

SAM HOUSTON STATE OFFICE BLDG.
TEL: 475-3581

MAILING ADDRESS:
BOX 12007

GOOD NEIGHBOR COMMISSION
OF TEXAS

AUSTIN, TEXAS 78711

The Honorable Dolph Briscoe, Governor
Members of the Legislature, State of Texas

Gentlemen:

In compliance with Sub-section 8, under Section 4 of the Commission's basic law (H.B. 468, 50th Leg., 1947, as amended by S.B. 179, 59th Leg., 1965, and S.B. 676, 62nd Leg., 1971), I am respectfully transmitting herewith the 1975 Annual Report on Texas Migrant Labor.

This report is the only one published by a state agency which covers the full spectrum of migrant labor activity - health, education, transportation, labor camps, housing, legislative development, etc.- related directly to the improvement of the well-being of migrant and seasonal farmworkers. It essentially complies with the Commission's legislative charge, "To coordinate the work of the federal, state and local government toward the improvement of travel and living conditions of migrant laborers in Texas." The report not only chronicles the facts, conditions and circumstances which focus on the socio-economic plight of migrant families on a yearly basis, but it also contains statistical information which can be useful for the development of programs in addressing the needs of migrant farmworkers in Texas.

The Good Neighbor Commission of Texas expresses sincere appreciation for the cooperation of local, state and federal officials, as well as the many private groups and individuals who have provided relevant and valuable information essential to the preparation of this report.

Sincerely yours,

Oscar M. Laurel

Oscar M. Laurel
Executive Director

PREFACE

The Good Neighbor Commission of Texas, organized under federal grant in 1943 and later funded by legislative appropriations in 1947, is charged under its basic law to coordinate the work of federal, state and local government units endeavoring to improve the living and working conditions of Texas migrant and seasonal farmworkers and their families. It should be noted that the approach of the GNC, in an attempt to coordinate and improve services to migrants, in no way calls for the implementation of migrant programs by the GNC nor participation in the competitive processes affecting migrant funding in the state. Rather, the Commission continues to act specifically as a mechanism to facilitate coordination among the various federal, state and local migrant programs in the state. Thus, the agency's role is viewed more as a catalyst which seeks to more effectively coordinate, unite, develop, and if necessary, expand migrant program operations in the state of Texas.

In accordance with its legislative mandate, this Commission continues in its efforts to assist in program development and evaluation of Texas projects aimed at bettering the lot of migrant farmworkers. During the past year, the Commission's Coordinator of Migrant Affairs conducted numerous personal interviews and on-site visits to agencies and projects in an effort to obtain detailed firsthand information on the nature and types of services available to farmworkers in our State. Furthermore, a continuing process to research and assemble the material which is incorporated into this annual report has been a day to day function of the migrant division of this Agency. The Migrant Report, as required by law, is addressed to the Governor and members of the Legislature. However, it is also distributed to federal, state and local agencies, migrant program directors, reference libraries, private organizations and interested citizens.

In addition to keeping abreast of current activities, the Commission continued to expand its involvement by actively participating as a member of the Social Services Subcommittee of the Federal Inter-Regional Committee on Migrants (Regions V, Chicago and VI, Dallas). The basic goal of this Committee is to coordinate the interstate delivery of services to migrant farmworkers among the labor demand states of Region V and to coordinate the efforts of their agencies with our corresponding agencies here in Texas, the labor supply state.

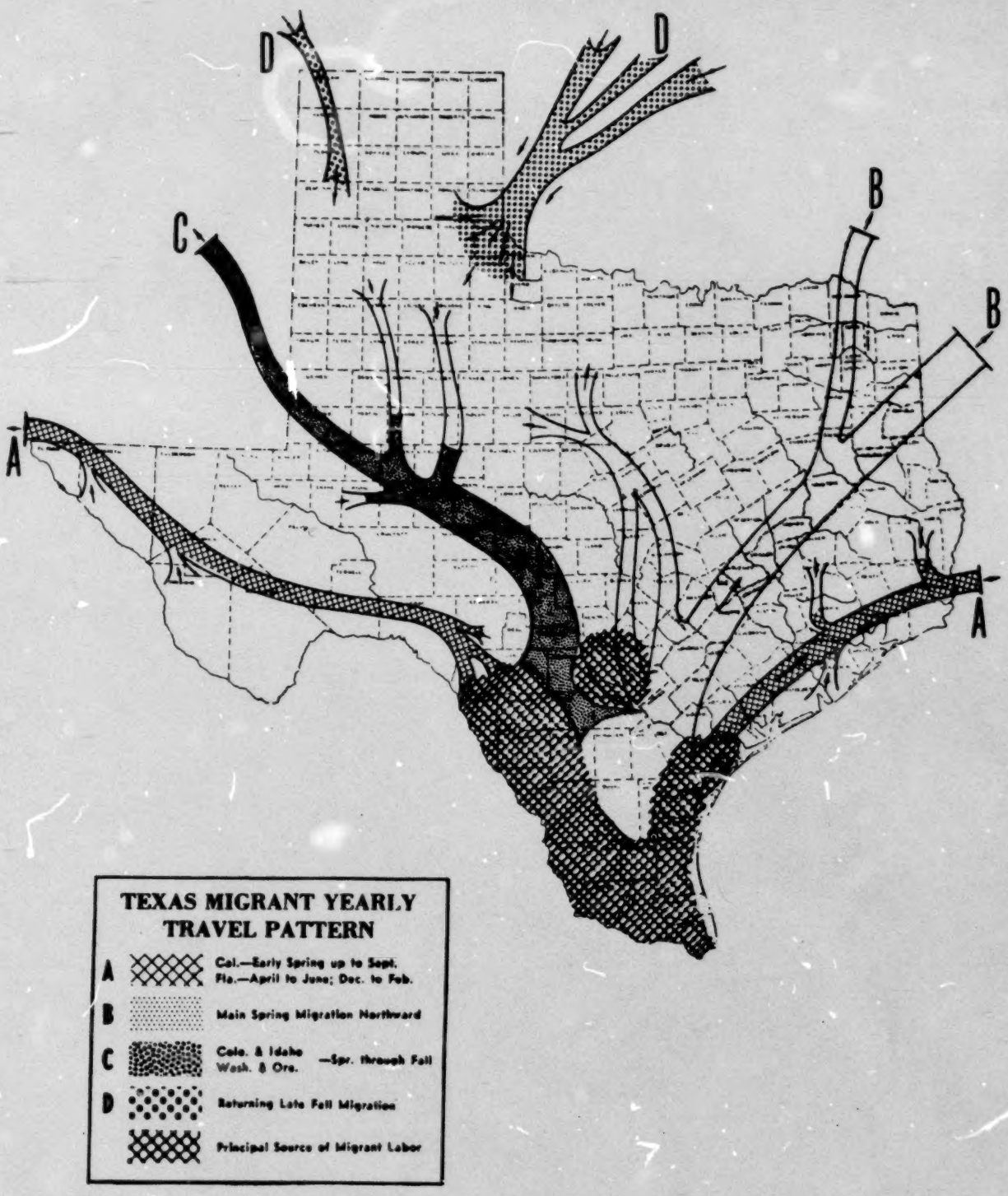
The 12-member Inter-Agency Task Force on Migrant Labor, which functions as an adjunct to the Good Neighbor Commission in carrying out its Legislative mandate, met during the year on February 11, June 26 and November 5 to promote intrastate coordination of migrant affairs. This Task Force continues to provide a framework for participating state agencies to work together in defining and working toward improving the lot of migrant laborers. As discussed in a later section of this Report, an appointed Legislative Committee and the Good Neighbor Commission's Legislative Research Intern, prepared a file of materials for legislative action which were instrumental in preparing migrant legislation for the 64th Legislature. It is our belief, that a concerted effort on the part of all state agencies having migrant oriented programs, is essential if their relentless quest to up-grade the delivery of services to this disadvantaged segment of our society is to be assured.

In surveying conditions which migrants encounter both at home and in their work destinations, this Commission has relied for the past years on the excellent cooperation provided by government and private agencies, as well as its own research, in evaluating operating programs for migrants. This involvement is essential for the preparation of this annual report, which has been published for more than a decade, and which we attempt to make as constructive and factual as possible. The Migrant Affairs Section of this Commission will continue to be actively committed to attain the goals and objectives of all migrant related programs in which we can provide a useful and constructive input.

We of the Commission are grateful for the collaboration received and welcome any comments or suggestions that could assist us in making this Report more useful to those persons and agencies involved in serving the needs of the migrant farmworkers of this State.

The Executive offices are located in the Sam Houston State Office Building in Austin and the mailing address is:

Good Neighbor Commission of Texas
P. O. Box 12007
Austin, Texas 78711
Telephone: AC 512/475-3581


D
D
B
B
C
A
A
TEXAS MIGRANT YEARLY TRAVEL PATTERN
A
Cal.—Early Spring up to Sept.
Fla.—April to June; Dec. to Feb.
B
Main Spring Migration Northward
C
Colo. & Idaho
Wash. & Ore.
—Spr. through Fall
D
Returning Late Fall Migration
Principal Source of Migrant Labor

THE MIGRANT FARMWORKER - AN OVERVIEW

The one thing that should be known, without dispute, about migrant farmworkers, is that we cannot get along without them. Even with all the improved technology and the increasing mechanization on our farms, a hired labor force is still vitally needed. During the peak season, as harvesting, additional labor must be used to complete the operations at the proper amount of maturity and to meet market demands...the problems of the migrant farmworkers are probably the most urgent and most difficult to solve.

Basically we have migrants for two reason. Among the reasons for migrancy, the foremost is that many people find it impossible to make a living in a single location and hence have had to become migratory. Technological displacement, business recession and consequent unemployment in industry, drought and crop failure, radical changes in the sharecroppers system, lack of education and vocational training are among the basic factors responsible for migrancy.

The other major reason lies in the character of American agriculture. Increasingly, farms are becoming more and more industrial. Acreage per farm is increased, crop specialization is practiced and production is mechanized. Together, these factors produce a situation in which a comparatively small labor force is needed most of the time, but in which a large labor force is required when crops must be harvested--an operation difficult to mechanize.

From the standpoint of both working and living conditions, the most disadvantaged farmworkers are those who migrate from area to area, following the seasonal crops. The migratory workers and their families may be away from their home base for several months out of the year. Their itinerary may span thousands of miles, different employers, and a variety of crops. Jobs are intermittent, and slack periods with little or no earnings are common.

Migratory farmworkers travel out of economic necessity, not because of preference for nomadic life. Seasonal farm activities in the southern parts of Texas, California, and Florida, which are the home-base areas for the largest groups of migrants, do not provide sufficient employment and earnings. Workers depending on seasonal farm jobs must move with the crops in the hope of lengthening their periods of work and increasing their annual incomes. Migrants begin their annual trek northward in the early spring, following a cycle of activities in a number of crop areas. In California, they typically cultivate cotton and vegetables and then move into the harvest of a variety of spring vegetables and fruit crops. In other Western and North Central States, they find spring jobs in sugar beet cultivation and in the strawberry harvest. During the spring, migratory workers also are found in fruit and vegetable harvest activities in the Atlantic Coast States. Summer and fall are the most active seasons; migratory workers are relied on to supplement local labor in harvesting tomatoes, grapes, peaches, pears, melons, cherries, blueberries, cucumbers, apples and other crops. The peak employment of migratory workers in most areas usually occurs in August.

The migratory workers' basic problem is, of course, irregularity of work, despite efforts by the public employment service to coordinate and regularize their employment. Harvest timetables may be upset by the vagaries of weather and crop failures. The number of workers needed may be over estimated, or the unexpected arrival of crews may upset prior plans and create labor surpluses in some areas while others are short of workers. And workers receive no pay for time spent in travel or waiting for work. In effect, some of the risks associated with the weather and other circumstances are shifted from employers to hired workers--to a much greater extent than in other industries where the labor supply is less flexible and workers are protected by collective bargaining agreements. Furthermore, housing and sanitary conditions are often unsatisfactory in the migrant workers' labor camps, and adequate health services are generally lacking.

The average level of education is low. Since migrant families are constantly on the move, the schooling of children is often interrupted. Large numbers of migrant children who are in school are below the grade level normal for their age. Many drop out of school at an early age to help supplement family earnings and thus further handicap themselves in future efforts to enter more stable, better paid fields of work.

The Texas farm labor pool is made up almost entirely of Mexican Americans and although the majority of them are native born American citizens, they continue to hold a strong cultural affinity with Mexico and customs related to their background. All of these field workers have, at one time or another, migrated to a job or in search of a job, either interstate or within the boundaries of Texas. They have traveled as singles, as a family unit or members of crews and have all tasted the bitter pills of discrimination, deprivation and poverty. These people are part of a distinct subculture of American society and are seemingly thwarted in any attempt to break out and up as they are boxed in by many frustrations.

The pattern of migrant life and work creates problems that are not solved by any single community, or even by a single State. While the migrant contributes vital labor and a good part of his income to the locality where he works, he still encounters difficulties dealing with community facilities and services. These difficulties are further complicated by mobility, which adds to expenses and reduces income while contributing to illiteracy, poor working conditions, inadequate housing, and lack of sanitation. It should be emphasized that none of these problems exists in isolation; nearly every problem area is an inseparable part of every other problem area.

The total number of Texas migrants on the stream has decreased steadily during the past decade and will probably continue as such. What these agricultural workers are faced with is the almost untenable situation of an increasing labor pool and a decreasing number of jobs, of decreasing yearly earnings and an increasing cost of living. Couple this with the uncertainty of weather, crop yield and local labor availability and the picture becomes a pretty gloomy one. Even with a well planned season backed up with job referrals, there is no real guarantee that the migrant will find the employment for which he has traveled so far and that he so desperately needs.

By way of concluding this Overview, we cannot over emphasize the critical situation in which the migrants and the State of Texas find themselves and those who in the past have ignored the plight of the migrants, intentionally or otherwise, will now have to face the multiple problems involved. The migrants' problems are with us, they are many and real

problems and solutions must be found if we are to bring these people into full participation in a society of which they are a part and in which they have a rightful place. A true awareness that there is little opportunity for the uneducated person who possesses no skills and speaks little or no English will hasten the further development and promotion of programs aimed at easing the pressures which burden this group. More comprehensive and timely labor market information, employment counseling, job development, placement, and other services are needed to enlarge the range of job choices available to migrant farmworkers. There is a special need for assistance to migratory and other farmworkers in making the difficult transition to nonfarm jobs, as seasonal activities in agriculture are phased out through mechanizations.

CURRENT DEVELOPMENTS

The list of problems which surround and haunt the migrant farmworker is almost endless, so we will discuss only some of the most important ones and those in which concerted effort is being made toward their solution. It can be said that the migrant and seasonal farmworker in and around the Lower Rio Grande Valley and other parts of Texas is the most investigated and researched group, but only recently is it possible to say that progress is being made regarding a clear analysis of the situation and the initiation of reform and corrective programs. One earnest criticism to be made of most studies is that those doing the research many times were not sufficiently prepared in the philosophy and psychology of the peoples involved. Of course the one overruling factor, ECONOMY, plays a dominant role here just as in all strata of society. All migrant groups have always suffered from low earning power which restricts self-improvement, which in turn restricts increased earning power.

Texas migrants have for many decades performed a vital role in the ecomony of Texas and other states, and they will continue to do so, however they are confronted by many serious problems that require remedial action. In spite of mechanization and technological advances in agriculture there will always be a need for hand cultivating and harvesting. Factors of mechanization and technology have in recent years further intensified the traditional problems that have for years existed among this work force. Texas is the number one "supplier" state of migrant farmworkers and is also "home base" to more interstate migrants than any other state in the U.S. Thus, all of the ills and disadvantages that beset the migrant workers elsewhere in the country, are accentuated here in Texas.

Many of the ills of the migrants are the result of basic, fundamental factors that cannot be corrected in a short time, even if the efforts are made and the funds are available. The way of life of the great majority of our migrants has been characterized by poverty, lack of basic education both among the adults and the children, the prevalence of diseases and assorted ailments stemming from a lack of sanitation, health care and knowledge of health rules, inability to speak English, and the despair of the sub-standard mode of their hand-to-mouth exixtence. It is a vicious cycle that, to be corrected, must be attacked on a variety of fronts, and this requires time and perserverance. A number of specific programs and projects are well under way in various communities, and the number should increase greatly as experience is gained and their value becomes recognized by the communities.

A. Education

Undoubtedly the one problem of greatest long-range importance in breaking the cycle of ignorance and vocational unpreparedness of the migrants is that of educating the children. Although some of the children of migrant families have, over the decades, remained in school and eventually acquired sufficient education to enter vocations requiring skill and knowledge, and others have reached high educational levels, the great majority have not had this privilege. On the average, they find themselves unable to keep

4-4 blank

up with the other children after a couple of years, so they drop out of school, and from then on accompany their parents throughout the yearly migrations. As they, in turn, reach maturity, they are prepared only for unskilled farmwork, usually speak very little English, and thus are unable to enter any other vocational field.

Among the obstacles that in the past have frustrated any efforts on the part of others to induce the parents to keep their children in school, has been that of the economic necessity of their contributing to the meager earnings of the parents. Even parents who would prefer to leave their children in school usually contend that without these additional earnings they would be even less able to pay their bills on returning to home base.

Another basic obstacle, many times, is that of apathy on the part of parents toward education. The father is usually more inclined to be apathetic toward school than the mother. Being hard pushed to earn enough for even a subsistence living, and often never having been to school himself, he finds it easy to take the position that what's good enough for him, is good enough for his children. The mother is frequently more anxious to see her children receive an education, but under the patriarchal system of their class, she is unable to sway the father. There are also the additional obstacles posed by the strong disinclination of Latin families to split up, even for only a few months, and the difficulty of finding relatives or friends to care for the children at home base during the parents' absence.

The migrant education programs had once used Department of Labor statistics on numbers of farmworkers, plus a factor for estimated numbers of children per family, as the basis for determing the numbers eligible by state for their services, and thus the basis for their allocation of funds. The Department of HEW found that this formula resulted in inequitable distribution of funds, with states having substantial numbers of single male farmworkers receiving overallocations while those whose farmworker populations tended to be primarily large families were underfunded. Therefore, HEW has adopted a new approach to allocating its funds. Using data from their computerized Migrant Students Record Transfer System (MSRTS), HEW now allocates its funds to the states on the basis of a formula which takes into account the number of children actually served by the migrant education program and the number of days they were served during the previous year.

Most of the programs, now funded by Section 303 of the Comprehensive Employment and Training Act, had received funds from OEO on a project review basis. The size of the farmworker population, the past track record of the applicant and nature of the proposal, were all reviewed, annually, before funding decisions were made.

CETA regulations changed all of that, mandating a formula approach to the allocation of funds. Public Law 93-203, the basic act establishing the Comprehensive Employment and Training Act of 1973, specifies that an amount equal to five percent of the money appropriated for Title 1 of the Act shall be made available for Section 303 programs (special programs for farmworkers). By regulation, the Department of Labor has established (CFR 97.204) that not more than 20% of those available funds may be set aside for the National Contingency Account to fund such programs as High School Equivalency Programs, College Assistance Migrant Programs, and other programs of

demonstrated effectiveness. According to CETA Regulations, the balance of the money "reserved for Section 303 activities shall be allocated for farmworker programs in individual states in an equitable manner using the best data available as determined by the Secretary."

In order to maintain the current level of funding or to increase the State allocation, the Texas Education Agency (TEA) began during mid-1975 to identify eligible migrant students in the State and recorded these in the MSRTS. Only migrant students who qualify and are recorded will receive supplementary educational and ancillary services. There are six status classifications of the migrant students and they are as follows:

"1" Interstate - Agricultural
"2" Intrastate - Agricultural
"3" Five-year provision - Agricultural
"4" Interstate - Fishermen
"5" Intrastate - Fishermen
"6" Five-year provision - Fishermen

There are many kinds of migrant children, but in this Section we will treat specifically with the children served by the U.S. Office of Education, which states: "A migratory child of a migratory agricultural worker is a child who has moved with his family from one school district to another during the past year in order that the parent or other members of his immediate family may secure employment in agriculture or fishing or in related food processing."

The following criteria serves to define their eligibility:

1. Interstate Migrant - A child who has moved with a parent or guardian within the past year across state boundaries in order that a parent, guardian or member of his immediate family might secure temporary or seasonal employment in agriculture, fishing activities, or related food processing.

2. Intrastate Migrant - A child who has moved with a parent or guardian within the past year across school district boundaries within a State in order that a parent, guardian or member of his immediate family might secure temporary or seasonal employment in agriculture, fishing activities, or in related food processing.

3. Formerly Migratory - (Five-Year Migrant) - A child who has been an interstate or intrastate migrant as defined above but who has ceased to migrate within the last five years and now resides in an area in which a program for migratory children is to be provided.

Of these, currently migratory children (1 and 2 above) must be the prime beneficiaries, according to HEW guidelines, and in no case can the funds be used to provide services solely to those in the "formerly migratory" category.

The Texas Child Migrant Program:

The Texas Education Agency for the 1974-75 school year, made special attempts to meet the needs of 61,799 children of migratory farmworkers who participated in migrant programs operated in 181 school districts in Texas. In addition, the Texas Migrant Council, Inc., a nonprofit organization, provided preschool programs in six locations. As is illustrated by the following two tables, there has been a dramatic upsurge in the number of migrant students participating and in the number of districts operating migrant programs over the past ten year period.

STUDENTS PARTICIPATING		DISTRICTS PARTICIPATING	
1964	3,668	1964	5
1965	6,500	1965	10
1966	20,083	1966	40
1967	16,769	1967	40
1968	18,843	1968	45
1969	31,779	1969	64
1970	37,048	1970	73
1971	43,632	1971	99
1972	48,848	1972	123
1973	54,661	1973	151
1974	55,424	1974	177
1975	61,799	1975	181

The Texas Child Migrant Program (TCMP) is a direct outgrowth of Title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) of 1965 which provided federal funds to state educational departments and is an essential part of public school education in Texas. The program, which received a funding total of $18,104,591 in 1975, has two basic structures, the Seven Month School Program and the Enrichment Program, which were specifically designed to help educationally deprived migrant children.

PARTICIPATION BY GRADE LEVEL

Grade Level	Number of Students	Percent of Total Number of Students
Pre-Kindergarten	2,706	4.4%
Kindergarten	4,676	7.6
1	6,570	10.6
2	5,706	9.2
3	5,933	9.6
4	5,792	9.4
5	5,717	9.2
6	5,365	8.7
7	4,904	7.9
8	4,195	6.8
9	3,048	4.9
10	2,147	3.5
11	1,522	2.5
12	1,235	2.0
Ungraded	2,160	3.5
Special Education	123	.2
Total	61,799	100.0%

The preceding table indicates the participation of migrant pupils by grade level from pre-kinder through high school. The T.C.M.P. is operated in Kindergarten Grade 1-12 and a special Migrant Preschool for four year olds. The basic goal of the program is to offer the migrant child a comprehensive and total educational program that will help him realize his full potential and thus prepare him to take his place in the mainstream of the state's educational process.

The SEVEN MONTH SCHOOL PROGRAM is used to compensate for the inability of migrant children to attend school the entire regular term since, due to their mobility, their time at home base is limited. These children receive the same amount of classroom exposure but it is compressed into 135 days which requires that the school be extended plus a reduction in vacation time during the Christmas holidays. Migrant children in this program are put into separate classrooms which allows them to start and end their school year together. Each school in this group tries to adjust its calendar to the travel plans of the majority of migrant families hence classes seldom start before October 15 and never continue beyond the first week in May.

The ENRICHMENT PROGRAM provides supplementary educational services to migrant children participating in the TCMP. Even though situations may differ between school districts, each ISD must structure their programs within the framework of the following plans:

a) Extra services during the day to provide supplementary instructional activities with a supplementary or resource teacher in a classroom, a circulating supplementary teacher, or teacher aides providing additional services,

b) An extended day program in which migrant children participate in the regular school program and school day activities, but receive additional instruction after school; and

c) Self-contained classrooms which have only migrant pupils in a nongraded structure.

The PRESCHOOL PROGRAM has the following as its general objectives:

a) To establish an educational environment in which four-year-old migrant children are provided opportunities to develop intellectually, socially, physically, and emotionally;

b) To provide opportunities for parents of these children to participate more effectively in the school community and to assume more effective responsibility for enhancing the educational development of their children; and

c) To increase the effectiveness of instructional personnel who work with these children through a parental activities program which will deepen understanding of the special needs and characteristics of the migrant family.

The migrant prekindergarten program for 1974-75 served 2,706 four-year-olds in 136 units of 20 or fewer pupils each. These 136 units were operated by 51 local school districts, 3 education service center cooperatives and the Texas Migrant Council, which operated 6 units under contract with the Texas Education Agency. An approximate total of $1.5 million in Title I Migrant funds were expended statewide for four-year-old migrant children.

The SUMMER SCHOOL PROGRAM for migrant children who did not migrate this year, continues to have an amazing acceptance. A total of 12,362 students participated in the 1975 summer program which is an increase of 113 when compared to the 1974 figure. In order to be eligible for the special educational and recreational programs a child must have migrated sometime during the past five years. The academic part of the program emphasizes oral language proficiency, but also offers reading, social studies, science and math. The use of textbooks is held to a minimum while emphasis is placed on making education a pleasant experience.

The INTERSTATE COOPERATION PROJECT operates for ten weeks during the summer when Texas' bilingual teachers work with the consumer states' education department staff to help provide schooling continuity for migrant children in the work areas. During this period the teachers receive a salary, per diem and mileage. At the end of the summer a "reporting conference" is held in Austin at which time the teachers share what they have learned through their interviews with employers and migrants and through their contacts with program sponsors and service people in the states they visited.

On October 9-11, 1975, the Texas Education Agency held its Thirteenth Annual Migrant Workshop at McAllen in the Lower Rio Grande Valley. The theme of the three-day meeting was "Educación Migrante: Una Vista Nueva". Over 3,000 educators came together to participate in special sessions with national and state consultants.

TEXAS CHILD MIGRANT PROGRAM
Thirteenth Annual Workshop
October 9–11, 1975 McAllen, Texas
Texas Education Agency Austin, Texas

Office of Compensatory/Migrant Education:

Since the reorganization of the Texas Education Agency, the Office of Compensatory/ Migrant Education has been delegated the responsibility for program functions only. All fiscal matters will be managed by the Office of Federal Funding.

The major goal of the Texas Child Migrant Program is quality education with increased opportunities for migrant children. In accomplishing this goal one of the major efforts will be the provision of inservice for migrant instructional personnel.

The Texas Education Agency Migrant Division staff will conduct program reviews of local education agencies throughout the state. The results of these reviews will indicate priorities for staff development in each school district. A plan will be formulated with the assistance of Education Service Center Migrant personnel and initiated within one week of the program review. Education Service Center personnel will provide continuous inservice through follow-up visits.

Another goal of the Migrant Program for Fiscal Year 1976 will be the completion of the pilot testing phase of the Criterion-Referenced Test project. During the past two years, test items have been developed in the areas of Oral Language (Spanish and English), Reading (Spanish and English), and Mathematics (English only) for grade levels K-6.

There are two other migrant educational programs which merit special consideration because of their orientation toward serving migrant youth and their utilization of successful techniques in educating and guiding such youth. Following is a brief description of these two programs.

The COLLEGE ASSISTANCE MIGRANT PROGRAM (CAMP), which is under the sponsorship of the U. S. Department of Labor, is designed to provide migrant and seasonal farmworker youths an opportunity to earn a higher education at a major four year university. There are four such programs sponsored by DOL in the nation on four different campuses: (1) St. Edward's University in Austin, Texas; (2) Pan American University in Edinburg, Texas; (3) California State University in San Diego, California; and (4) Adams State College in Alamosa, Colorado. In order to participate in the program, the student must be between the ages of 17 and 24 and must have either a high school diploma, GED certificate, or have graduated from a High School Equivalency Program (HEP).

CAMP is an adjunct to the many post secondary vocational training programs now available to the young migrant and seasonal farmworker family member and is designed to facilitate the entrance of the migrant youth into higher education within an environment that is supportive and does not leave development to chance. CAMP's purpose is to assist the young migrant laborer in realizing his potential and to reinforce the notion that a comfortable living is the result of hard work, acceptance of responsibility and self-dicipline. Included within the program are experiences and opportunities for pre-vocational training, vocational training, normal student development and meaningful work activities.

All of the CAMP projects are funded directly to colleges and universities and have a core staff that is lodged on the host institution's campus, thereby providing day-to-day supportive services to the participating students. CAMP is a program committed to a philosophy of helping students—without jeopardizing the student's identity—to become self-sufficient in their new environment and thus master a new way of life.

The financial aid covers the cost of 50 percent of first-year students' tuition. For the succeeding 3 years, the grantee school develops a financial aid package from other sources (the work/study program, for example) to cover 100 percent of the education costs. No two CAMP projects are exactly alike, since each staff designs its activities according to the particular needs of its students, the courses the school offers, and its degree requirements.

Now in its third year, the program has a national retention rate of 82 percent. CAMP students, moreover, have a grade point average that is somewhat higher than that of the average student at the sponsoring schools: 2.43 vs. 2.18. The effectiveness of the program is very clearly demonstrated by the following tabulation.

COLLEGE ASSISTANCE MIGRANT PROGRAM

	1972-73	1973-74	1974-75
Enrollment	84%	104%	115%
Retention	77%	83%	87%
G.P.A.	2.27	2.48	2.52

Even though CAMP has been successful not only in recruiting migrant students, but in assuring a high level of success in the university for those students, it faces likely extinction after the 1975-76 fiscal year. The Department of Labor has decided not to continue funding CAMP after August 31, 1976. At this time no enabling legislation exists which would allow any other federal agency to fund such a program.

The other education program, which also will not receive DOL funding after the 1975-76 fiscal year, is the HIGH SCHOOL EQUIVALENCY PROGRAM (HEP) for migrants and seasonal farmworkers. Developed by the Office of Economic Opportunity under the Economic Opportunity Act and first funded in 1966, it was transferred to the Department of Labor (as part of a comprehensive program for these workers and their families) in August 1973. HEP is designed to provide youth, between the ages of 17 and 24, who have dropped out of school with the skills needed to pass the GED and obtain a high school diploma. Beyond that, the objective is to place the enrollees in jobs with opportunity for upward mobility or in vocational training or college.

HEP is a full-time, coeducational program run on college campuses (approximately 15 in number) around the country. HEP students live in college dormitories, participate in campus activities, and may be tutored and counseled by regular students. Their involvement in college - to them a new way of life - helps them to grow socially as well as academically. The program stresses small classes, individualized instruction, programmed materials, a system of awarding points translatable into rewards for correct behavior, and the use of audio-visual teaching aids. Vocational counseling is added to the academic instruction. Length of stay in the program averages 4-5 months.

The Consumer Price Index of the Bureau of Labor Statistics (DOL), states that there has been a ten percent average increase in inflation over the last three years, yet the overall increase in the total funding level of all HEP programs combined has been two and

four-tenths percent according to recent studies. To break these figures down to the average cost per participant, graduate and placement, the following tabulation contains the most current (June 6, 1975) data available.

HIGH SCHOOL EQUIVALENCY PROGRAM

Funding Year	Cost Per Participant	Cost Per Graduate	Cost Per Placement
1972-1973	$2,004	$3,698	$3,904
1973-1974	1,846	3,152	3,246
1974-1975	1,591	2,559	2,652
Decrease in Cost	403	1,139	1,252

Many persons are seriously concerned at the likelihood that programs such as CAMP and HEP may cease to exist, thus denying an opportunity for higher education to hundreds of migrant and seasonal farmworker youths. Indeed many are writing to their legislators urging continued support for these programs.

Bilingual Education:

Not only in Texas, but in many parts of the U. S., there are large numbers of children who come from environments where the primary language is other than English. Yet, for a distressingly long period in U.S. educational history, for a variety of reasons ranging from downright ethnic prejudice to well-intentioned, if appropriate, desire for cultural convergence, that fact was seen as an obstacle to be overcome rather than a condition to be taken enthusiastically into account. This perhaps helps to explain why the battle for full bilingual programs will probably be both long and difficult. It should be mentioned that approximately 11.2 million people of Spanish origin—5 percent of the total U.S. population—now live in the United States. A year ago that figure was 10.8 million, reports the Census Bureau. The majority of the Spanish—speaking population—60 percent—are of Mexican origin. Another 15 percent are of Puerto Rican origin, followed by Cuban, 7 percent, and Central or South American, 6 percent.

What is Bilingual Education:

Bilingualism is the ability of an individual to use, primarily to understand and speak, two languages. Bilinguals may be classified according to their skill in two languages along a more or less infinite scale, with some bilinguals having one dominant and one secondary language, while others are reasonably balanced in two languages. In many cases, children entering the public school system are considered bilingual when in fact they are monolingual in their mother tongue. The guidelines under Title VII of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) state that "bilingual education is instruction in two languages and the use of those two languages as mediums of instruction for any part of or all of the school curriculum. Study of the history and culture associated with a student's mother tongue is considered an integral part of bilingual

education". In a bilingual program, English must be taught as a second language, but teaching English as a second language (ESL) does not automatically assure a bilingual program, because to be truly bilingual the program must also be bicultural.

Rationale For Bilingual Education:

The public conscience has gradually become sensitive to the predicament of the minority population, and new theoretical models have been developed and implemented, so that educational leaders have come to the point of view that initial school experiences should capitalize on the child's home language and culture. While granting that a person living in a society, the language and culture of which differ from his own, must be equipped to participate meaningfully in the mainstream of that society, it should not be necessary for him to sacrifice his rich native language and culture to achieve such participation.

The child's mother tongue is not only an essential part of his sense of identity, it is an important aspect of his self-image and his sense of dignity about himself and his family. Schools can, and should, maintain and strengthen the sense of identity that a non-English-speaking child brings to school, and should build on that sense of identity to give the child skills that will enable him to function in the mainstream of society.

In the 1975-76 school year, the Texas Education Agency reported that an estimated 100,000 children in Texas schools were enrolled in federally and/or state assisted bilingual programs. Out of this number, 56,529 youngsters participated in bilingual projects funded under Title VII of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) and the total ESEA funding was over $15 million. There were also 19 bilingual projects funded under Title VII of the Emergency School Aid Act (ESAA) with 36,407 children participating. The funding for this statewide ESAA program was almost $4 million.

We in Texas are fortunate that interest and enrollment in Spanish language instruction is not diminishing, rather, it is increasing. Spanish is very much a part of the Southwest, part of its history, an important part of its present and a necessary part of its future. The following tables of the development growth and of on-going projects, funded by Title VII-ESEA, illustrate better than anything else, the Texas commitment to bilingual education and its continued growth.

DEVELOPMENT GROWTH OF BILINGUAL EDUCATION IN TEXAS
1971-1975

	Projects	Expenditure	Enrollment
1971/72	35	$5,182,000	24,286
1972/73	40	6,187,000	35,014
1973/74	39	5,728,000	42,614
1974/75	49	8,730,450	62,343
1975/76	53	15,677,257	56,529

TEXAS BILINGUAL EDUCATION PROJECTS
1975/76
Title VII-ESEA

Project District	Year of Project	Funding Authorized	Children Participating
Abernathy	Seventh	$ 105,000	410
Abilene	Fifth	120,000	912
Alice	Sixth	255,000	986
Anthony	First	325,000	714
Austin	Second	845,000	3,000
Bishop	Fourth	85,000	290
Brownsville	Fifth	260,000	1,504
Corpus Christi	Sixth	155,000	390
Crystal City	Fifth	471,000	1,203
Dallas	Fifth	468,344	2,793
Donna	First	220,000	502
Eagle Pass	Fourth	178,176	900
Edcouch-Elsa	Second	215,000	900
Edinburg	Sixth	215,000	635
El Paso	Fifth	268,000	1,800
Elgin	Second	110,000	90
Falfurrias	First	161,400	444
Fort Worth	Seventh	445,332	700
Galveston	Fifth	90,300	300
Harlingen	First	195,000	1,933
Hereford	Second	85,000	410
Houston	First	556,274	4,500

Project District	Year of Project	Funding Authorized	Children Participating
Kingsville	Sixth	$ 300,000	883
La Feria	First	71,000	225
La Joya	Seventh	150,000	503
La Villa	First	125,000	350
Laredo (United ISD)	Seventh	131,461	300
Laredo (Laredo ISD)	First	275,000	2,200
Levelland	First	71,000	215
Lubbock	Seventh	131,758	725
Lyford	First	117,000	415
McAllen	Seventh	195,000	607
Mercedes	Second	190,000	678
Mission	Second	190,000	980
Pharr	Fifth	298,017	4,000
Plainview	First	117,004	425
Port Isabel	Sixth	178,500	920
Rio Grande City	Fourth	210,000	1,300
Rio Hondo	First	111,000	412
Robstown	Fourth	355,000	1,200
Rosenberg	First	120,000	230
San Antonio (Northside)	First	515,000	2,700
San Antonio (Edgewood)	Seventh	295,000	1,764
San Antonio (S.A. ISD)	Seventh	548,795	2,400

Project District	Year of Project	Funding Authorized	Children Participating
San Antonio (South S.A.)	Sixth	$ 135,000	230
San Antonio (South Side)	Fifth	183,659	250
San Antonio (Harlandale)	Seventh	250,000	1,920
San Diego	Fourth	180,000	700
San Felipe (Del Rio)	Seventh	240,000	1,000
Waco	Second	115,000	210
Weslaco	Seventh	198,000	1,515
West Oso	Second	195,000	521
Zapata	Seventh	182,000	460
		$ 15,677,257	56,529

—Source: Texas Education Agency

Following is a breakdown per grade level of the number of students and teachers participating in State supported bilingual education programs during the 1975/76 school year. As of December 29, 1975, there were 176 school districts with bilingual programs on 798 school campuses.

Grade:	K	1	2	3	4	5	Total
- Students of Limited English-Speaking Ability							
	20,434	23,926	20,161	3,464	1,844	1,795	71,624
- Other students enrolled in bilingual programs							
	12,934	15,391	14,036	5,328	1,865	1,392	50,946
- Bilingual teachers in bilingual programs							
	880	1,167	950	166	71	62	3,296
- Monolingual teachers in bilingual programs							
	382	468	493	156	72	53	1,624
- Teacher aides in bilingual programs							
	591	506	433	74	34	33	1,671

On November 18, 1975, the President submitted to Congress a proposed rescission cut of $27.7 million for Bilingual Education that directly and critically impacts our nation's Spanish speaking community. The rescission cut for Bilingual Education is one of six that was proposed for Education Programs in HEW. The President's justification for the proposed rescission was that "the rescissions would reduce federal spending for programs that are responsibilities of state and local jurisdictions, fails to effectively focus on the persons in need of assistance, or are not justifiable on programmatic grounds."

The present level of appropriations for Bilingual Education (Title VII) is $97.7 million and if the proposed rescission were to be approved by Congress, this would sharply reduce the Bilingual Education program to $70 million.

In essence, the total effect of this proposed recission cut on Bilingual Education would be distributed in the following manner:

1) A reduction of $15.6 million would be made in demonstrated activities. This would reduce the number of projects which would be supported from 383 to 289. Of these projects, the number of anticipated new starts would be reduced from about 185 to 90.

2) A reduction of $9.37 million would be made for training activities ranging from in-service training associated with demonstrations to graduate level training of teacher trainers. This would reduce the number of training participants from 21,700 to 15,000.

3) A reduction of $2.8 million for bilingual vocational training, thus terminating support for this activity.

A rescission does not take effect unless Congress acts to approve it within 45 congressional days. If Congress does not act within the 45 day period, the rescission is automatically rejected.

Inter-State Venture in Career Education for Migrant Youth:

Career education, as espoused by the U. S. Office of Education and the Career Education Office of the Texas Education Agency, is a concept that begins from an individual's earliest home/school experiences and spans his entire life. Career education includes the totality of experiences through which one learns about and prepares to engage in work as part of his or her way of living. The concept of career education, properly modified to meet the unique needs of migrant and seasonal farmworker children, can have a significant impact on their total career development.

Perhaps the key to coordination of career education activities lies in establishing effective inter-state links among states in which there is heavy migration from one state to another. One very promising initial effort is currently underway between Texas and Washington states. At a preliminary meeting in McAllen, Texas, during the 1975 National Migrant Conference, the state directors for both career and migrant education discussed ways in which to provide unified career education experiences to migrant youth traveling from Texas to Washington. Also to be involved in the cooperative venture are

representatives from the USOE Career Education Office and the USOE Migrant Office. The major objectives of this venture are to develop integrated career education goals and curricular materials which will result in continuous career education experiences for migrant youth. Although the difficulties in developing sequential experiences for youth migrating from Texas to Washington, or any other state, are formidable, it is the one strategy which can have the most significant impact on migrant youth in this country.

The most single important component of this cooperative venture is teacher in-service component for those to be involved in this proposed inter-state migrant education cooperative. Plans call for in-service training to take place at regular intervals during the project. It is anticipated that once basic career education competencies are identified in participating states, the migrant child's progress will be monitored by the Migrant Student Record Transfer System. However, the groundwork for setting career education as a top priority needs to be established and much more needs to be done in the area of inter-state cooperation before this becomes a reality. It is encouraging, nevertheless, to see such initial steps taken by inter-agency, inter-state personnel involved in career and migrant education.

B. Housing:

Housing, whether evaluated from a national, state or local point of view, always seems to perpetuate the word; shortage. The meaning of this word is then made more vivid by use of descriptive words such as; critical, disastrous, inexcusable, chronic, etc., all intended to convey the idea that we continue to be in a housing crisis. There are two separate and distinct factors that exert real pressure on housing and prevent it from ever reaching a balance between supply and demand. Consider the uncontrollable variables of population increase, population displacement, construction costs, money availability, labor conflicts, etc. as influencing local demand and supply. Then consider the effect of change in acceptable housing standards which often dictates that yesterday's "adequate" housing is today's "inadequate" housing and is therefore branded sub-standard, thereby creating a new housing demand or at least a basic improvement effort. Is it any wonder that the battle for decent housing proves so difficult to win? In both of these aspects, our migrant farmworker and his family are painfully aware of this situation at home base as well as in the work area. Lucky indeed is the family that can work a full season at one single location as contrasted to the family that has the burden of finding housing and setting up "housekeeping" a half-dozen or more times during their seasonal trek.

Home Base Housing:

Although in recent years there has been considerable migration to other areas in the state, the Lower Rio Grande Valley remains the principal and most varied migrant home base area.

At home base, the kind of housing the migrant has, generally depends on what he can afford and on how much pride he takes in it. Then too, where his home is and how much time during the year is it occupied must be considered. Is the place urban or rural, in a subdivision or a "Colonia", is the migrant an owner or a renter, etc.? With so many variables, it can be said that migrant housing stands at no fixed level but can be graded from good, to poor, to deplorable.

As we have mentioned, economy is the strongest limiting force to better housing for migrants as they just do not have the money. However, the factor of human initiative is also very important for this group of people and it is easy to discern between the family with desire and ambition and the one that does not care and does not want to be bothered about trying to improve its lot. As in all levels of society, individual values differ widely although circumstances may not.

A grant of $2.1 million to provide technical assistance in the construction of housing for almost 20,000 migrant and seasonal farmworkers was announced by the U.S. Labor Department during July. This technical assistance program begun in 1971 will continue to pave the way for the construction of rental housing for about 15,000 agricultural workers and will aid about 5,000 migrant families of 10 or more persons in the construction of individual homes.

The monies are not used for construction costs but for assistance to migrant and other farmworker groups in locating construction sponsors, arranging for financing of construction, and construction supervision. A small revolving fund is used to finance installation of sewage lines and other utilities to qualify the selected land for loan status. The funds are made available under the Comprehensive Employment and Training Act, Title III which provides for special assistance to specific groups such as migrants and seasonal farmworkers.

At present, the grant recipient (Rural Housing Alliance of Washington, D.C.) is funding projects with $1.5 million granted last year in the following states: Alabama, $136,400; California, $280,000; Colorado, $97,310; Florida, $347,403; Louisiana, $137,562; Mississippi, $158,000; Missouri, $100,000; North Carolina, $212,700; and Texas, $132,000.

Travel Housing:

Since farmworkers began migrating, the manner of housing while traveling has pretty much followed the nomadic principal of do-it-yourself and depend-on-no-one. Stopping under a tree on a side road, staying in a public campground, parking behind a highway billboard was about the full range of migrant travel housing. In recent years, with vehicles being faster and somewhat more dependable, many families and crews opt for driving straight through to destination by spelling off drivers rather than risk confrontations and possible delays.

Today, the situation has changed but little and we know of only very few places in the entire Midwest where our migrants travel, that offer complete and supervised rest stop facilities—none of which are within the borders of Texas. The State of Texas, therefore, could provide a service that would be a real benefit to the families that follow the crops, by providing proper rest camps at carefully selected points on the usually traveled routes, all equipped with such basic facilities as would accommodate the needs of migrant farmworkers.

The rest stop with the largest visitor count, the longest operating experience and the longest season is the Migrant Farm Labor Center in Hope, Arkansas. The Center offers through the Arkansas Job Bank, crop information from other states and Arkansas, cooking and eating facilities, air conditioned sleeping trailers, restrooms and showers, and parking areas for migratory farmworkers and their families enroute from Texas to northern states and return.

The Center opens March 1st and remains open through December 31st each calendar year. This operation continues on a seven-day week, 24 hours per day basis, to provide continuous service as migrants drive through Hope. The Center, which is in its second decade of service to migrant travelers, surpasses this year its second one-half million people who have used the facilities since records were first kept in 1960.

VISITORS TO THE HOPE, ARKANSAS CENTER

1965 - 17,905	1970 - 56,613
1966 - 28,237	1971 - 48,653
1967 - 41,676	1972 - 48,463
1968 - 48,593	1973 - 45,818
1969 - 55,652	1974 - 40,855

1975 - 40,918

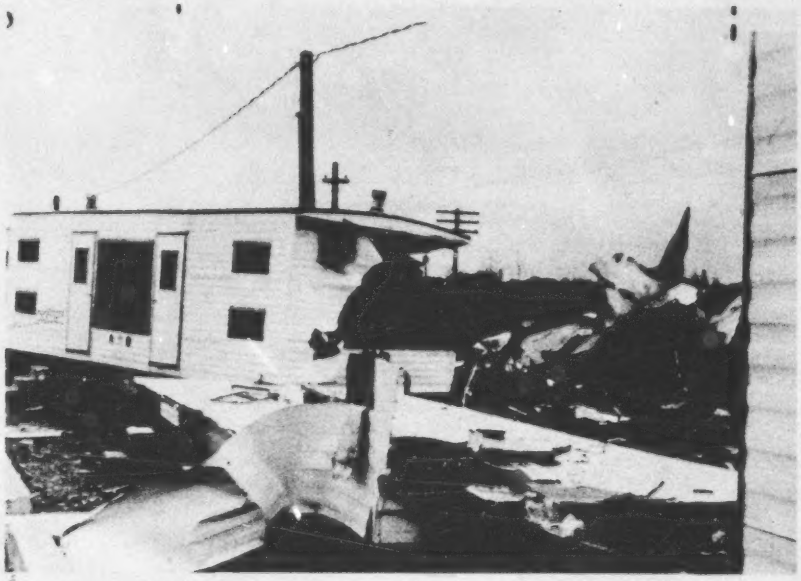
The registration forms filled out at Hope are a valuable statistical tool and contain information of interest to this Commission and others involved in migrant studies and programs. In recapping the demographic information that is compiled from the visitors' registration forms we find that the "on stream" demographic make-up has varied but slightly over the years.

Percentage of:	Youth Under 16	Total Workers	Workers Male	Workers Female
1969	39.6%	60.4%	52.0%	48.0%
1970	40.3%	59.7%	51.5%	48.5%
1971	40.0%	60.0%	51.8%	48.2%
1972	38.5%	61.5%	53.2%	46.8%
1973	40.0%	60.0%	53.0%	47.0%
1974	42.0%	58.0%	52.2%	47.8%
1975	42.3%	57.7%	53.1%	46.9%

In 1975 there were 4,247 family groups or crews served at the Center for a total of 40,918 migrants. The Center served 17,325 non-workers, or children under 16 years of age. The size of the groups ranged from 1 to 107 and the smallest weekly report showed that 10 people were served. The largest weekly report showed that service was rendered to 3,695 persons; the average number served per week was 952 for the year. The size of groups and number reporting by groups for the last two years are as follows:

	1974	1975
1 to 5 persons	1,355	1,297
6 to 10 persons	1,694	1,609
11 to 15 persons	683	708
16 to 25 persons	413	449
26 to 50 persons	168	169
51 to 75 persons	8	11
76 to 100 persons	1	2
101 to 199 persons	0	2

On December 23, 1975, the butane gas storage area across highway 67 caught fire. One of the 6,000 gallon storage tanks that exploded came across the highway and demolished several trailers that are used by the traveling migrants at the Center and caused minor damage to several other trailers. It is hoped that new trailers will be on station by March 1, 1976.



Directly across from the Migrant Farm Labor Center is the Migrant Mission Center (sponsored by Southern Baptists) which offers emergency health services, free recreation, refreshments, and Christian literature. Also provided are: clothing, shoes, school supplies, and personal health items which are prepared and distributed to the migrant families as they return to their homes and schools in Texas.

Work Area Housing:

Here again, we encounter a situation of diminishing returns both for owner and for occupant. We are dealing with large on-farm and processor multiple housing or labor camps, small farm units and rentals in destination states as well as here in Texas. What was adequate housing a few years ago is now inadequate, while costs to recondition substandard housing is increasing occupancy time is decreasing and if the minimum standards for acceptable, decent housing set by DOL are not met, the owner is denied government recruiting assistance.

There is wide variation in housing arrangements. In areas where work is scattered, housing usually is in old farmhouses, while in other parts the concentration of workers frequently makes large camps necessary. Often the housing for the migrant is free, but little relation exists between the charge and the condition of the housing facilities. One thing is for certain, greater efforts need to be made for the appropriation of funds for the enforcement of the existing housing laws, whether they be state or federal.

Occupational Safety and Health Act:

The Occupational Safety and Health Act was enacted in 1970 to provide a safe and healthy working environment for all American workers, including migrant and seasonal farmworkers. The Act envisioned promulgation of health and safety standards which employers would be obligated to implement, providing safe and healthy working conditions for all employees.

Farmworkers sorely need the health and safety protections intended by the Act. Agriculture is the third most hazardous industry in the U.S. and farmworkers suffer the lowest life expectancy of any group in the country. While the typical American male is expected to live 72 years and the typical ghetto resident 55 to 60 years, the farmworker has a life expectancy of only 49 years. There are numerous aspects of agricultural work—from farm equipment to field sanitation to labor camp conditions—to which safety and health standards could and should be addressed.

On September 23, 1974, proposed new standards for migrant farmworker housing were published in the Federal Register by OSHA. Major changes in the standards included:

-Housing standards would no longer be required to be structurally sound, in good repair, and in sanitary condition, providing protection against all elements. Instead, only a water-proof roof would be required.

-Only 50 square feet per employee would be provided witnin the shelter and no square footage of space would be required for non-working children of the employees. This would replace a standard of 100 square feet per employee;

-No space requirement was included between beds so that there would be no limit on the number of beds or occupants of any one dwelling;

-Only one toilet per 15 employees was required. If there were over 150 employees, only one toilet for each additional 40 employees would be required.

-No windows would be required as long as some ventilation was provided and there was no stipulation for screening as long as insects were kept out;

-No electricity was required as long as some form of lighting was provided; and
-Garbage, toilet, bathing and handwashing facilities were not required to be accessible to the sleeping area.

The living conditions which circumstances force upon migrant farmworkers continue to be an insufferable scandal. The situation is one that Americans of good will simply cannot in good conscience ignore. This was freshly brought out by the record of protests against the afore mentioned proposed new federal standards for migrant workers' housing. After the Labor Department's Occupational Safety and Health Administration published the rules to elicit public reaction, as the law requires, interested groups requested that public hearings be held on the proposed job safety and health rules dealing with employment-related housing.

One such hearing was held on January 30 in Corpus Christi, Texas, at which time condemnation of the rules proposed by OSHA was voiced. The gist of the objections was that the proposed standards, far from being an advance, would make for a worse situation than now exists. Other hearing locations were: Washington, D.C., January 20; Toledo, Ohio, January 23; Fort Lauderdale, Florida, January 27, and Portland, Oregon, February 4.

Rural Housing Alliance:

The Rural Housing Alliance in Washington, D.C., a nonprofit corporation organized to help rural Americans obtain decent housing, receives Section 303 funds (CETA) to provide technical and financial assistance to local nonprofit housing sponsors working to improve the living conditions of migrant and seasonal farmworkers.

Usually, the local agencies are into self-help projects, which enable participants to move from flimsy shacks to modern, well built attractive houses. Projects produce group action, develop skills, increase self-reliance, and give people the idea that they can really help themselves.

Most of the labor is provided by the families, each contributing about 30 hours a week and each helping the other, under the direction of a trained supervisor. Some of the more technical tasks such as plumbing and wiring are handled by contractors. Houses cost, on the average, between $12,000 and $14,000 and take from 8 to 12 months to build.

Under its contract with DOL, the RHA also sponsors projects to stimulate the development of improved rental housing for seasonal farmworkers. RHA's staff assists nonprofit organizations and public housing authorities plan and apply for funding under FmHA's Farm Labor Housing Program, which makes grants and low-interest loans for migrant housing. The units are rented to seasonal farmworkers at nominal rates.

Farmers Home Administration:

From the United States Department of Agriculture (Farmers Home Administration) comes the following list of labor housing loans and grants made since 1969. For 1976, it appears that the FmHA may have $10,000,000 available in loan funds.

Labor Housing Loans and Grants
1968-1975

	No. Units	Amt. of Loan Funds	Grant
1. Castro County, 1968	192	$ 570,000	$ 387,380
2. Hale County, 1969	128	539,890	537,880
3. Sabinal, 1971	40	180,000	176,780
4. Housing Authority of Hidalgo Co.-Weslaco, 1973	192	162,050	1,458,380
5. Floydada, 1974	48	50,000	450,000
6. Housing Authority of Hidalgo Co.-McAllen, 1975	150	1,026,110	1,250,000
	750	$ 2,528,050	$ 4,260,420

C. Health:

The last of the three points that seemingly enclose the migrant in a triangle of frustration is the always deficient and often times nonexistent health attention. It seems appropriate to introduce the subject of health after the companion topics of Education and Housing as these two subjects bear directly on health and health habits. Without some basic education it is impossible to comprehend about health, without proper housing facilities it is impossible to control environmental health. Likewise, without education how can one learn about hygiene and its importance, about nutrition, about sanitation, immunization, etc., and without adequate housing how is one to prevent the constant threat of vectorial and bacterial disease and infection? Health is the key to learning and earning—without it one can accomplish neither.

The dimensions of the critical unmet needs of migrants are indicated by such statistics as an infant mortality rate 25 percent higher than the national average; mortality rates for tuberculosis and other infectious diseases 2½ times the national rate; and influenza and pneumonia, 20 percent higher. The rate of hospitalization for accidents is 50 percent

higher than for the nation as a whole. Migrant workers are generally ineligible for Medicaid benefits because they do not meet the definition of categorically needy. The Bureau of Community Health Services is moving in a number of directions to improve the delivery of health care to the migrant worker and his family.

In Texas, another approach to providing continual, comprehensive medical care to migrant families has been conducted in the Laredo-Webb County migrant project. The enrolled migrant families have the choice of going either to the Laredo Clinic or to a private physician for ambulatory health care, or while the enrolled migrant family is upstream, getting health care and hospitalization through the same basic plan. The program is sponsored by the Laredo-Webb County Health Department with the cooperation of Blue Cross—Blue Shield of Texas and the University of Texas School of Public Health.

The 500 migrant families covered by the project get free clinical services but are liable for one-fourth of the medical costs if they choose to see a private physician. Specialist services are available at no extra cost to the patient and all hospital charges are included. The project will be useful in developing plans for comprehensive continuance quality care for the 11,000 migrants and 35,000 medical indigents of Laredo.

The Migrant Health Program grants funds for the provision of several types of health services to farmworkers, including: family health service clinics; continuity of health services, including hospital care; and training of individuals to provide the respective services.

Both migratory and seasonal farmworkers are eligible to receive services in HEW Migrant Health projects, although there seems to be limitations in regard to seasonal workers. The two groups are defined, respectively, as:

1. Domestic agricultural migratory worker: an individual residing in a State whose principal occupation is in agriculture on a seasonal basis, who establishes for the purpose of such employment a temporary place of abode and who has been so employed within the last 24 months.

2. Seasonal agricultural worker: an individual residing in a State whose principal occupation is in agriculture on a seasonal basis, who has been so employed within the last 24 months and who has not established a temporary place of abode.

HEW regulations for the Migrant Health Program have further elaborated on the distinctions to be made between the two groups, providing that services may be rendered to seasonal workers in instances where they "perform seasonal agricultural services similar to the services performed by domestic agricultural migratory workers if the Secretary finds that the project is located in an area where migratory workers reside and the provisions of such services will contribute to the improvement of the health conditions of such migratory workers and their families."

National Migrant Referral Program:

The Migrant Referral Project, which has been operating a medical referral system for migrant farmworkers and their dependents for five years, became a national project July 1, 1975. The project, which had been funded through Region VI, Department of Health, Education and Welfare is now funded by HEW's Bureau of Migrant Health.

The national expansion of the program will mean that all HEW migrant clinics will be participating in the referral system. The Bureau of Migrant Health funds 105 migrant projects which operate clinics at 355 sites in 37 states covering the 10 Federal Regions. This network of clinics serves approximately 405,000 migrant patients throughout the country.

The National Migrant Referral Project, Inc. (NMRP) has conducted regional training workshops in use of the referral system for clinic personnel; designed a General and Pediatric Health Referral Form; and published a national directory of migrant clinics. NMRP has established a comprehensive computer analysis of referral activity through a contract with the University of Houston.

Another important aspect of this project is its outreach component. Through use of field representatives and VISTA-consejeros (health workers), NMRP is able to implement, monitor and evaluate the referral system. During the home base season of the migrants, the outreach staff work with South Texas clinics. During the migration season, the outreach staff follow the migrant workers and work with migrant clinics in various parts of the country.

The recent publication of the "National Migrant Health Service Directory", as stipulated in its grant from the Bureau of Migrant Health, is an integral part of the Health Referral System that provides continuity of health services to migrant farmworkers and their dependents.

The new directory contains four major sections: (1) Indian and Migrant Program Division (IMPD) operating migrant headstarts, (2) HEW Headstarts, (3) HEW Migrant Projects, and (4) State Health Departments. Furthermore, each section has its own index according to state and city allowing one to refer quickly to a desired address.

The migrant referral system is designed to facilitate the continuity of health care for migrant agricultural workers and their dependents. It functions on an agency-to-agency basis so that health providers in one locality may communicate directly with health providers in another locality for the benefit of a patient who requires some form of follow-through in health care. There are two major "tools" used in the System:

1) The first is the directory. The Directory includes information on health care facilities throughout the nation where migrants work or where they live off-season. Facilities are listed by state and locality within each state. For each facility there is a listing of its location and, where information has been supplied, an indication of the health services available.

2) The second is a referral form. There are two versions of this form, one designed for general referral (GENERAL), and one specifically designed for young children (PEDIATRIC). The versions closely resemble each other; the only major difference is in the section on "Health Service Requested" where the PEDIATRIC version is oriented to the specific health needs of young children and includes special spaces for more elaborate instructions on immunizations.

Despite the obvious need for health care in rural areas, good health care services are limited for basic reasons: (1) Rapidly rising costs of modern medical equipment and services increase the disadvantage of rural areas; (2) Rural hospitals are often inadequately staffed, poorly equipped and lacking out-patient and extended care facilities; and (3) Medical specialists and emergency care in short supply in rural areas. Due to these and other factors, a large number of migrants are left out of the general patient populace, and do not receive health care.

Migrant health projects vary from locality to another in the nature and scope of their services. They provide medical treatment for illness or injury, immunizations, case-findings and treatment of communicable diseases, pre and post natal care, and other services. The 16 local migrant clinics. which have continued to operate and serve migrants in the field, are funded and audited directly from Washington through the Regional HEW office in Dallas. In 1975, every effort was made by the local migrant clinic to provide complete medical services to their patients. These included screening by nurses, care and treatment by physicians, and basic laboratory services. Specialized medical care, limited dental care and complex laboratory and x-ray procedures were provided via referral of patients to practitioners in the community who offered these services. Following is the list of migrant health clinics which are still in operation in Texas:

LOCAL MIGRANT HEALTH PROJECTS OPERATING IN TEXAS
1974-1975

Project County	Grantee Organization
Bexar	Southwest Migrant Association San Antonio
Cameron	Cameron County Migrant Health Project San Benito
Cameron & Willacy	Cameron & Willacy County Family Health Services Harlingen
Comanche	Leon Vally Migrant Health Project De Leon

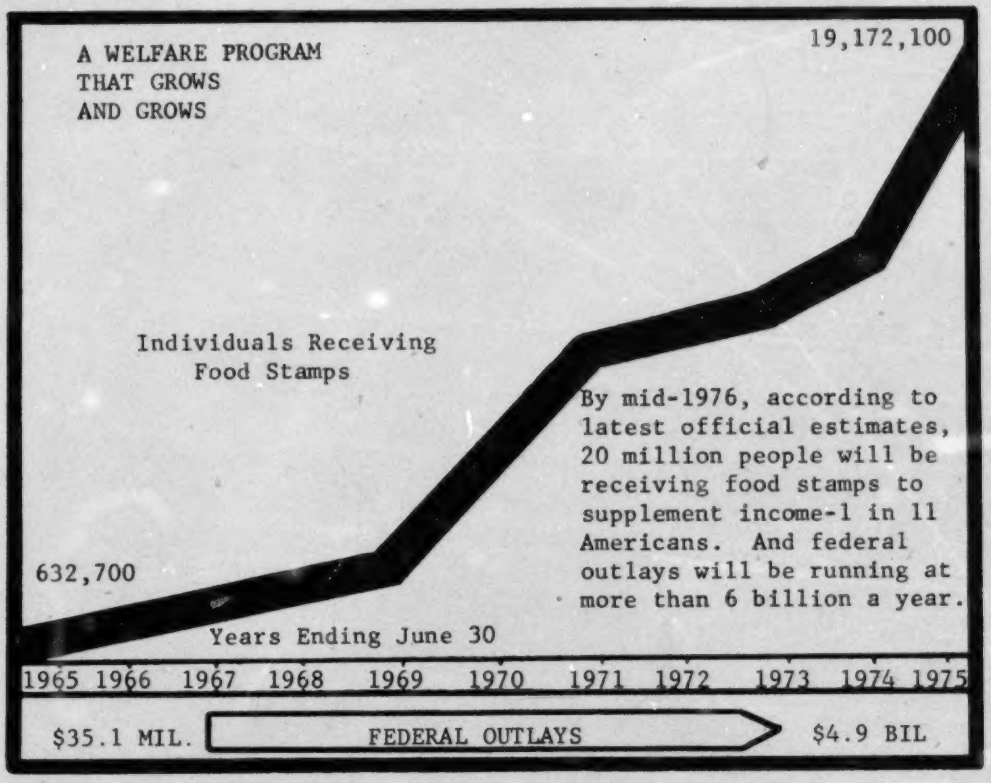
Project County	Grantee Organization
Gonzales	Gonzales County Migrant Health Project Zapata
Hale, Crosby, Floyd & Lamb	South Plains Health Provider Organization Project Plainview
Hays	San Marcos-Hays County Migrant Health Project San Marcos
Hidalgo	Hidalgo County Migrant Health Project Edinburg
Jim Hogg	Jim Hogg County Migrant Health Project Hebbronville
Jim Wells	Jim Wells County Migrant Health Project Alice
La Salle	La Salle County Migrant Health Project Cotulla
San Patricio	San Patricio Migrant Health Center Mathis
Starr	Starr County Migrant Health Project Rio Grande City
Val Verde	Del Rio-Val Verde County Migrant Health Project Del Rio
Webb	Laredo-Webb County Migrant Health Department Laredo
Zapata	Zapata County Migrant Health Project Zapata

Food Stamps:

The federal food stamp program, initially created as a modest project to distribute a portion of America's agricultural surplus to the most needy citizens to supplement deficient diets, has experienced such enormous growth that there is now near total agreement on the need for reform.

The food stamp program has grown to a point where it is too expensive for the benefits it yields. Because of a jumble of administrative regulation, it is too complicated to serve many of the most needy.

The present administration has offered a reform program that contemplates a severe cutback in the issuance of stamps, and rigid income controls. An alternate plan has been drawn up and the major difference between the two plans is that the administration program would cut off food stamps at the official "poverty level" now decreed at $6,250 annually for a family of four, while the new proposal calls for a phased decrease in food stamp eligibility as income rises.


A WELFARE PROGRAM
THAT GROWS
AND GROWS
19,172,100
Individuals Receiving
Food Stamps
By mid-1976, according to latest official estimates, 20 million people will be receiving food stamps to supplement income-1 in 11 Americans. And federal outlays will be running at more than 6 billion a year.
632,700
Years Ending June 30
1965 1966 1967 1968 1969 1970 1971 1972 1973 1974 1975
$35.1 MIL.
FEDERAL OUTLAYS
$4.9 BIL

37

The drawback to the administration plan is that it would discourage a family near the poverty level from striving for the next step up the economic ladder when it might actually cause a net decrease in the standards of living. Another attractive feature of the new proposal is that it would eliminate the food stamp purchase requirement. Currently a family eligibile for food stamp benefits of $47 must purchase $162 worth of food stamps for $115. If the purpose of the food stamp program is really to help the very poor among us, it seems unreasonable to require them to make a substantial cash outlay to obtain the benefit.

What is most encouraging of all, however, is that the White House and the Congress agree that reform of the food stamp program is urgently needed.

Never in its decade as a major tool of federal help for the needy has the food stamp program been under such heavy fire as it is today. Among worries being voiced are the following:

—The very size of the program is frightening. The expected payout of 6.6 billion dollars for food stamps in the coming year represents about one-half the total budget of the Department of Agriculture.

—The program's growth, largely a result of the recession, is vastly exceeding expectations, with close to 1 American out of 11 now getting food stamps.

—Bureaucratic foul-ups, according to the latest official estimate, are resulting in an "error rate" of about 20 percent in the program. The double-barreled result: Lax controls let too many ineligible persons into the program; red tape keeps too many of the deserving needy out.

—Cases of fraudulent use of stamps appear to be rising faster than the number of persons getting them. In some localities, food stamps have become virtually a second currency.

In the wake of the growing controversy, pressure is building in Congress for reforms in the massive stamp program. Agriculture committees in both the House and Senate have commissioned studies of the program, and other chairmen have promised major overhauls in coming months. But reforming a plan affecting such a large number of voters, operating in every county in the U.S., is likely to be difficult.

There are now more than 19 million persons getting the food stamps, which are coupons issued by the Federal Government and distributed by cities and counties across the country. They are used just like money to buy food. The amount of stamps that a family can buy - and how much it must pay for them - depends on the size of the family and its monthly income. Families with net incomes above maximum amount - after taxes and certain other expenses - are ineligible for stamps.

Income Eligibility Schedule for Food Stamps

How Much in Monthly Stamps

Family of 2	$ 90
Family of 4	$162
Family of 6	$222
Family of 8	$278

How Much a Family Pays

Family of 2
Nothing if income is less that $20
$23 if income is $100
$50 if income is $200

Family of 4
Nothing if income is less than $30
$53 if income is $200
$128 if income is $500

Family of 6
Nothing if income is less than $30
$73 if income is $250
$142 if income is $500

Family of 8
Nothing if income is less than $30
$87 if income is $300
$180 if income is $600

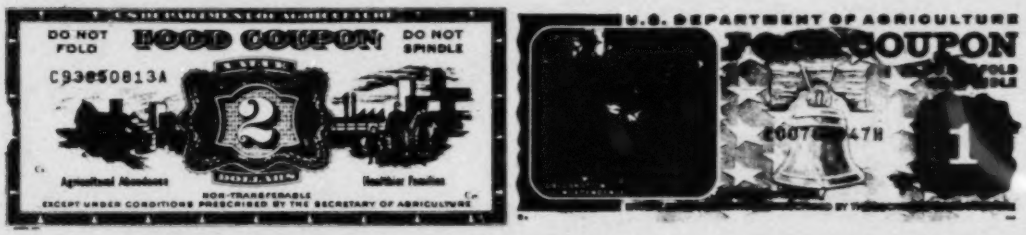
When Families Are Eligible
Family of 2-Income of $300 or less
Family of 4-Income of $540 or less
Family of 6-Income of $740 or less
Family of 8-Income of $926 or less

Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture

During its first few years, the food stamp plan was strictly a pilot program. At the end of its first year, there were about 50,000 persons getting the stamps in six test areas. The bonus value of the stamps - that part paid by the Government - came to $381,000.

According to U.S.D.A. officials, the program has mushroomed this way: the number of people receiving food stamps jumped from 6.5 million in 1970 to 10.5 million in 1971, then went to 12.4 million in mid-1973 and to 19.2 million in June, 1975. Cost of the program has climbed from $1.6 billion dollars in 1971 to $6.6 billion - with the cost expected to rise at least through 1978.

In Texas, only one-third of eligible food stamp recipients are receiving the benefits, while nationwide, the entire program is becoming mired in inefficiency. A Senate committee report released the first part of this year said that at least three million Texas residents had 1974 incomes below or close to the poverty level, making them eligible for food stamp relief. But only a little over one million of that number actually participated in the program, claims the report.



The food stamp program in Texas has shown essentially a growth pattern for the year except that here we find a modest summertime dip during six of the months that the migrants were away from their homes. For instance, the Lower Rio Grande Valley region showed approximately a 20% decrease in program cost during the summer and the Laredo area showed approximately 10% less:

TEXAS STATEWIDE
FOOD STAMP PROGRAM

December 1974 to November 1975 **In Thousands**

Month	Households	Total Coupon Value	Total Bonus Value	Bonus, % of Total
December	315.5	$ 39,611	$ 26,497	66.89%
January	317.9	41,440	28,265	68.21
February	319.0	41,494	28,226	68.02
March	321.0	41,712	28,147	67.48
April	317.0	41,094	27,524	66.96
May	309.9	40,224	26,737	66.47
June	298.8	38,242	25,432	66.50
July	293.8	39,330	26,122	66.42
August	286.7	38,233	25,243	66.03

Month	Households	Total Coupon Value	Total Bonus Value	Bonus, % of Total
September	283.1	$ 37,827	$ 25,041	66.20%
October	284.6	38,239	25,145	65.76
November	223.3	37,609	24,653	65.55
Year Total:	3,570.6	475,055	317,032	—
Monthly Ave.	297.5	$ 39,588	$ 26,419	66.71

Texas Department of Public Welfare

D. Transportation:

Migrants spend so much of their time on the road that transportation is a very basic part of their lives. The place of migrant workers in serving American agriculture has been recognized for many years. Migrants may be described as workers whose principal income is earned from temporary farm employment and who in the course of a year's work move one or more times, often through several states.

It must be recognized that the migrant labor supply is essential to the American agricultural economy. Although the contribution of these workers is small when measured in total man-days of employment, their service comes at the critical times when the supply of labor determines the success or failure of a crop. These people must arrive at the place where the work is to be done and at the time when it is to be done. Their work is important not only to the grower but also to the workers themselves because of their need for seasonal employment.

The migrant laborer may travel by private automobile, common carrier or truck. If he travels by either of the first two he may be as well protected as the average individual in a similar vehicle. But the third mode, more dangerous and less comfortable, is the customary way by which many migrants move.

In the early 1950's, many serious accidents involving migrants aroused official concern, so Public Law 939 was passed in August 1956 authorizing the Interstate Commerce Commission to establish reasonable requirements respecting comfort and safety of migrants who are transported across state lines. The regulations became effective August 1, 1957, with provision that the requirements as to seats and seating space in trucks would be observed on and after November 1, 1957. Since their inception, no reasons to change them have been submitted.

The regulations set forth established basic requirements for qualifications of drivers. The principal provisions are that the driver shall not be less than 21 years old, shall not have suffered the loss of a foot, leg, hand, or arm, and should have visual acuity of not less than 20/40 in each eye, either without glasses or correction with glasses, should have not less than 140 degrees field of vision and be able to distinguish colors. Drivers are required

to have a physical examination at least each 3 years and to be in possession of a certificate signed by a licenced doctor of medicine or osteopathy. In addition, drivers must be able to read and speak the English language sufficiently to understand highway traffic signs and to respond to official inquiries given in English. Each driver must also possess a valid permit qualifying him to operate the type of vehicle driven by him in the jurisdiction by which the permit is issued.

When migrant workers are transported in trucks for distances in excess of 600 miles, stops are required for a period of not less than 8 consecutive hours either before or upon completion of 600 miles of travel, and either before or upon completion of any subsequent 600 miles of travel to provide rest for drivers and passengers. Passengers must be protected from inclement weather. Stops are required upon approaching railroad grade crossings and vehicles must display a sign reading, "this vehicle stops at railroad crossings."

Vehicles are required to have smooth floors, side walls, and ends above the floor at least 60 inches high, and after November 1, 1957, were required to be equipped with securely attached seats. Seats are to be not less than 16 inches nor more than 19 inches above the floor, at least 13 inches deep, equipped with back rests at least 36 inches above the floor and designed to provide at least 18 inches of seat for each passenger. Gates or doors are to be provided and equipped with fastening devices. Ladders or steps and handholds are to be provided to facilitate entering and leaving the vehicles without hazard.

No person is permitted to drive more than 10 hours in the aggregate (excluding rest stops and stops for meals) in any period of 24 consecutive hours, unless he is afforded 8 consecutive hours rest immediately following the 10 hours of aggregate driving. Vehicles are to be systematically inspected and maintained to insure that the vehicles and their accessories are in proper operating condition.

The Interstate Commerce Commission has field offices in cities throughout the country which have copies of the regulations available for distribution. Copies can also be made available through the Bureau of Motor Carrier Safety of the U.S. Department of Transportation in Washington, D.C. whose department enforces the regulations on motor carrier safety for migrant and seasonal farmworkers.

E. Labor Unions and Organizing:

1975 was a year of intense activity regarding labor activities in the farm worker field. We will attempt to present only briefly the pertinent facts so as to cover this topic. Agriculture and farmworkers make up the last high population industry that remains unorganized by labor or trade unions. For many years union leaders have looked with interest at this huge working force and looked forward to the day when all farmworkers would carry cards and swell their membership rolls. It is a complicated endeavor considering lack of stability, seasonality, variable demand, youth participation, low profit industry, etc., and no truly workable formula has yet been presented that can even approximate a solution to this multisided problem. Over the years many groups in farm-related and farm-oriented industries have been organized. These groups could include canning, processing, packing and handling, etc., but the actual field worker

continues, by the very nature of his work, to remain outside of union influence and outside of the procedures of collective bargaining as provided under the National Labor Relations Act.

The coverage of farmworkers under legislation has been a long and profound interest of many people. The recently passed "California Agricultural Labor Relations Act" is a major legislative breakthrough which has established a model that deals with the realities of farm labor, the shortness of the period of employment, the scattering of jobs, the need for accelerated procedures both for conducting the elections and for negotiation and signing of collective bargaining agreements. This Act became law on August 29th of this year, and its provisions include:

(1) A five-person agricultural relations board; (2) Certification of unions through secret ballot elections; (3) Contracts between certified unions and growers only; (4) Petition for election by a majority of workers; (5) Elections within seven days, excepting during strikes when they must be held within 48 hours; (6) Decertification of a union through worker election; (7) Permission to vote in elections for economic strikers; and (8) Definition of unfair labor practices.

California's, new Farm Labor Relations Law has, predictably, raised as many new questions about organizing and representing farmworkers as it has settled old ones. Though the law has been in effect only for a few months, it is already clear that all sides - the growers, the unions, state government, and the courts - will be struggling with crucial legal, social and technological issues for years to come.

Once farmworkers in Texas and in other parts of the country see what their fellow workers have been able to do in California they are going to expect and even demand the same for themselves and are going to increase their union activities and their attempts to organize. If such developments are already happening in Texas and all over the U.S., then there is soon going to be a lot of pressure to move in Congress to get federal legislation.

While in California a tremendous farm labor victory was being experienced, violence and tension over attempts to organize melon field workers ran high in South Texas. The strike which was organized by the United Farm Workers (UFW) was intended to impede the harvesting of melons and enhance the opportunities for organizing in the Rio Grande Valley. The picketing began on May 20 in Starr County, site of confrontations in 1967 between farmworkers and Texas Rangers. This time, however, field workers did not leave their work, saying that they were afraid of what their crew leaders would do if they walked out of the fields.

The expedition that touched off the first explosion of the strike came on Memorial Day, May 26, when organizers were sent to the bridge between Reynosa, Mexico, and Hidalgo, Texas. Their job was to stop Mexican workers from crossing the bridge and boarding labor-contractor buses bound for the melon fields. Trouble later began a few miles from the border when a farmer came upon a group of marchers who he said proceeded to rocket him with melons and rocks as he approached them. Whatever the details of provocation, the farmer admitted he shot eleven persons and that the police told him he was within his rights. In response, hundred of farmworkers came out to demonstrate in both Starr and Hidalgo counties.

Meanwhile, several area farmowners agreed to allow peaceful picketing by the UFW, but other farm operators sought a restraining order against "illegal" picketing. The final outcome was a denial for secret ballot elections to determine if the farmwokers in the Rio Grande Valley wanted to be represented by the UFW. Later in July, United Farm Workers Union organizers moved into West Texas following the migrant farmworkers and the crops in another attempt to obtain union recognition.

AGRICULTURE AND MIGRANT LABOR

Agriculture and the Texas migrant and seasonal farmworker are far from static entities. Both things are dynamic in their constant change. The business of agriculture is influenced by profit, by government controls, land-use practices, market conditions and many other factors, not the least important of which is weather. Since the role of the migrant is to seek his personal economy by filling agriculture's needs and requirements he is therefore directly affected, to a greater or lesser extent, by the same factors.

Food production is the largest single sector of this nation's economy. The impact of American agriculture is tremendous since it employs one out of seven Americans. More than 450,000 nonfarm jobs are directly or indirectly related to the assembling, processing, and distribution of agricultural commodities for export alone. The farming industry realizes billions of dollars in net income, but for those hard-working migrants to plant, cultivate, and harvest the country's food, the result of their labor is too often abject poverty. Estimates as to the number of hired farmworkers in the country vary tremendously. In fact, no one knows precisely how many farmworkers there are, since each federal agency that deals with farmworkers defines a farmworker differently.

Fewer than 25 percent of farmworkers are employed full time. The typical American farmworker - usually head of a family, poorly educated, engaged in nonmigratory farmwork - works an average of only 123 days a year, at $15 per day, for an annual wage of $1,845. Indequate wages are not the only inequities visited upon the American farmworker population. With other rural residents, farmworkers share the worst housing in the country. Rural America, with only one-third of the nation's population, has nearly 60 percent of the nation's substandard housing.

It is ironic that the men, women, and children who harvest our crops continue to be under-protected, under-educated, under-clothed, and under-fed. These are the people who produce the food for the best-fed country in the world.

The Texas migrant and seasonal agricultural workers are generally employed as manual laborers by several growers each year, for harvests and other labor-intensive phases of certain fruit, vegetable and other crops. Many such jobs are extremely demanding physically, requiring prolonged stooping, crawling, crouching, or walking, often in very hot or cold weather.

In recent years, agricultural technology has aggravated structural unemployment among the poor who depend upon seasonal farm work. New developments include horticulture and mechanical harvesting techniques. Farm mechanization promises to greatly decrease the number of jobs for seasonal agricultural workers. The mechanization of harvesting grains, hay, soybeans, cotton, potatoes, peas, corn, and processed tomatoes had an historic impact on farm employment patterns, and has been associated with massive rural-to-urban migration thoughout the mid-twentieth century.

p. 38 blank

Other factors besides crop mechanization technology are expected to succumb to price competition from imported fruits and vegetables produced in countries where manual labor is less costly. Horticultural research is expected to facilitate mechanization by producing more strains that can tolerate machine handling and by rescheduling crops to reduce the seasonability of labor demands. Ownership of farmland is expected to become more concentrated, thereby making mechanization more economical.

Along with the entire South, Texas has been slower to industrialize than the nation as a whole. Consequently, a relatively large proportion of the State's labor force has been employed in agriculture. The Texas labor force is the fifth largest in the nation, and one of the three fastest growing in the nation. Both the population and labor force of Texas are expected to grow at rates exceeding the national average through 1980.

The declining importance of agriculture as a source of employment is reflected in the high incidence of poverty in rural areas. The mechanization of agriculture means that fewer agricultural workers are needed to produce farm crops. Consequently, individuals living in rural areas have relatively fewer opportunities for employment than in the past. Almost all of the counties with a high incidence of poverty have lost population as workers migrate to other areas in search of employment. Rural counties no longer provide sufficient agricultural employment to fully engage members of the local labor force, and other industries have not grown sufficiently to absorb the excess workers. The problem has been somewhat alleviated by the out-migration of those seeking employment elsewhere, but little has been done to offer employment to or otherwise alleviate the poverty of those stranded in the stagnant economies of some of the rural counties of Texas.

The 1975 Texas Crop Production Index for fourteen of the most important crops is 119 (1957-59 = 100), according to the Texas Crop Reporting Service. This rebound from the 100 reading for 1974 production reflects the higher production reached by most crops over the drouth-plagued 1974 crop. Substantial increases in production were recorded in wheat, oats, barley, peanuts, grain sorghum, corn, soybeans, pecans, and sweet potatoes. Rice, cotton, and potatoes were down only slightly from 1974 levels.

Generally, much more favorable moisture conditions prevailed in 1975 than in 1974, especially for the first six months of the year. Cool weather in June and July slowed growth of cotton and sorghum in the northern and western areas of the state, and these crops were ten days to three weeks behind schedule going into the fall. Short moisture and cool weather from early fall through the end of the year allowed harvest to make excellent progress but much of the High Plains and Trans-Pecos cotton failed to reach full maturity. Harvest of most crops reached completion well ahead of schedule in December.

Upland cotton production in Texas in 1975 is estimated at 2,400,000 bales, down slightly from the 2,462,000 bales reached in 1974. The 1975 crop will be the smallest since 1946 when production fell to 1,669,000 bales. Planted acres are estimated at 4,350,000, down 16 percent from the 5,200,000 acres planted for the 1974 crop while harvested acres, estimated at 4,000,000 are down 9 percent from 4,400,000 acres harvested for the 1974 crop. Yield is expected to average 288 pounds per acres, compared with the 269-pound yield of last year.

The following table on upland cotton production indicates that a large range of fluctuation does take place from year to year and that even though this has very little effect on the migrant and seasonal farmworker, the effect on the state's economy is of great importance.

TEXAS COTTON

Year	Acres Planted	Harvested	Yield	Bales
1970	5,251,800	4,851,000	335	3,247,000
1971	5,230,700	4,700,000	263	2,579,000
1972	5,570,000	5,000,000	408	4,246,000
1973	5,400,000	5,200,000	429	4,673,000
1974	5,200,000	4,400,000	269	2,462,000
1975	4,350,000	4,000,000	288	2,400,000

Statistical Reporting Service

This year an evident shortage of jobs in West Texas and the Rolling Plains occured in the ginning industry. The 1975 recruitment of ginners and gin hands began early in the year in all areas of Texas, but due to lack of job order only 173 placements were made by the Texas Employment Commission; this can be compared with 444 placements in 1974. The following table provides a break-down of cotton gin worker recruitment for the last several years.

COTTON GIN WORKER REFERRALS BY T.E.C.

	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975
Brownsville		31	13		1	1
Corpus Christi		36	76	130	13	3
Crystal City	23	2	11	29		
Eagle Pass	21	17	35	155	7	
Edinburg	148	87	100	100	20	5
El Paso	100	120	173	514	253	113
Elsa	53	38	39	38		2
Harlingen		11	24	60	19	6
Laredo	72	31	109	183	83	20
McAllen	79	28	128	167	12	14
San Angelo			31	32		1
San Antonio	6	3	13	34		
Weslaco	68	46	73	52	16	5
Temple/Waco				27	4	
Austin District			46			
Dallas/Ft. Worth			27	17		
Houston District			27	14		
Others	19		22	18	15	3
Total	589	450	947	1,571	444	173

The following table shows vividly what is occurring with the total migrant work force on the move within the state. The reader's attention is called to the two important mid-summer months which have shown a drastic decrease.

STATEWIDE SEASONAL EMPLOYMENT-INTRASTATE MIGRANTS
(thousands)

Year	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
1970	2.0	2.1	7.0	19.4	14.6	3.5	1.5	2.7	5.6
1971	1.5	1.4	6.2	17.7	12.6	3.6	1.2	1.6	2.5
1972	1.2	1.4	4.1	16.7	11.8	2.1	1.2	1.6	4.8
1973	.7	1.2	4.0	15.3	12.7	2.2	.8	1.8	4.9
1974	.6	.8	3.2	10.1	7.2	1.1	.4	.7	2.2
1975	.7	1.0	3.3	10.8	7.2	1.5	.3	.6	2.6

Texas Employment Commission —Texas Employment Commission

Pesticides:

Despite the cries of enviromentalists and the campaigns of organic food fanciers, American farmers are using more pesticides than ever before to grow the crops that nourish the nation.

The latest available figures from the U.S. Department of Agriculture show that almost 1.2 billion pounds of synthetic organic pesticides worth $1.3 billion were sold in the United States in 1973. That represented an increase of 17.4 percent from the previous year.

Statistics for 1974 and 1975 are not yet available, but the figures are expected to show another gain, although the energy crisis probably will cut any increase since the organic pesticides generally are derived from petroleum.

In 1966, according to the U.S.D.A., 36 percent of all cropland, not counting pasture, was treated with pesticides. In 1971, the amount of treated cropland rose to 52 percent. Most of the publicity about pesticides has centered on five well-known chemicals banned by the Environmental Protection Agency–D.D.T., Aldrin, Deildrin, Heptochlor and Chlordane.

Pesticide poisoning among farmworkers may be two or three times higher than worker's compensation statistics indicate. A study of nearly 1,500 farmworkers showed that those workers who stayed off the job because of illness frequently reported symptoms associated with pesticide poisoning. Commonly reported symptoms included eye irritation, nausea, trembling, unusual perspiration, headache, dizziness, skin irritation, and difficulty in breathing.

Texas Employment Commission:

The Texas Employment Commission, in 1975, began an Outreach Project for migrant and seasonal farmworkers. The intent of this outreach project is to seek out and find those migrant and seasonal farmworkers who are not registered with the Texas Employment Commission in order to assure that they are made aware of all manpower services that are available through state employment service agencies. It is also the intent of the project to determine the needs for any supportive services and direct the worker or members of his family to the proper agency.

In contacting these workers, a full explanation of employment assistance, the possibility of filing a claim for unemployment insurance, manpower training programs, and the availability of supportive services will be made in their most fluent language.

The major objective of this project is to publicize manpower programs and services that are available at state employment service offices. Hopefully, this effort will result in those migrants and seasonal farmworkers who have not been aware of T.E.C. services coming into their employment offices in other states for assistance.

The Annual Worker Plan (Rural Manpower Mobility Plan), provides a method by which a migrant crew or family may plan a whole season's itinerary. The objectives of the Plan are to reduce the time lost between jobs by migrant workers and to help provide employers with a dependable labor supply. As is indicated in the following table, the number of placements made in the last seven years by the Texas Employment Commission have decreased tremendously. This is due in part to the federal labor housing requirements, mechanization implications, as well as increases in the number of "freewheelers" and direct recruiters, all of which reduce the number of seasonal workers that avail themselves of T.E.C.'s services. In spite of the declining number of T.E.C. referrals, the migrant farmworker will continue to travel for the foreseeable future.

T.E.C.—ANNUAL WORKER PLAN
(Form 369)

	Openings	Placements	Percentage
1969	67,500	44,500	66
1970	50,000	31,000	62
1971	27,500	17,500	63
1972	22,000	13,600	62
1973	18,900	10,500	56
1974	23,926	8,083	34
1975	17,892	7,363	41

Farm Labor Contractor Registration Act:

The Farm Labor Contractor Registration Act (Crew Leader Act), administered by the Department of Labor, requires that any person who for a fee, either for himself or on behalf of another person recruits, solicits, hires, or furnishes or transports migrant farmworkers is considered a "farm labor contractor." There are three exceptions:

(1) Any farmer, processor, canner, ginner, packing and shed operator or nurseryman who engages in any such activity for the purpose of supplying migrant workers;

(2) Any full-time or regular employee of any entity referred to in (1) above who engages in such activity solely for his employer on no more than an incidental basis; and

(3) Any person who engages in such activity solely within a 25 mile radius of his permanent place of residence and does so for not more than 13 weeks in any year.

The new law does cover intrastate movement of migrant farmworkers and covers the contract of one or more migrants. These are important changes which should be noted.

Under new amendments to the Federal Crew Leader Registration Act (FCLRA), crewleaders, growers, or businesses who hire migrants are liable for promises made to migrants during recruitment. Migrant workers who feel that working conditions or wages were misrepresented during recruitment may sue for damages in any Federal District Court. In addition, the Act states, the crew leader (who must be registered as such) must provide the following in writing at the time of recruitment: accurate descriptions of working conditions and housing, wage rates, crew leader's service charges, cost of food, and length of employment.

Registration activity under the FCLRA rose in the first quarter of fiscal 1976, with farm labor contractors filing over 1900 applications for cetificates, the U.S. Labor Department announced. During the same period in FY 1975, only 422 applications were filed.

Crew leader registration efforts are made each year to acquaint crew leaders with provisions of the Federal Farm Labor Recruiters Act. Since many crew leaders have ignored this law in the past several years to avoid the cost of liability insurance, approved transportation, and other criteria, the Department of Labor in 1975 began to enforce and file suit against crew leaders not meeting the law. As a result, it is easy to see why there was such an increase in the number of crew leader registration in 1975.

CREW LEADERS REGISTERED

1968—1,446	1972—1,072
1969—1,562	1973— 915
1970—1,561	1974— 594
1971—1,330	1975—2,244

Enforcement activity under the FCLRA also increased during the first quarter, with 1,056 investigations made, compared to 265 during a comparable period last year. Of this year's investigations, 79 percent have turned up violations, and 43 percent have found farm labor contractors who failed to register with the department.

Farm labor contractors must determine that migrant workers they recruit are lawfully authorized to work in the United States under newly proposed regulations of the U.S. Labor Department. The proposal clarifies FCLRA amendments that became effective December 7, 1974. It lists kinds of acceptable written evidence that a worker is either a U.S. citizen or a legally employable alien.

Such evidence includes: birth certificate, certificate of citizenship or naturalization U.S. identification card, passport identifying worker as a U.S. citizen, consular report of birth or, in the case of an alien, an Alien Registration Receipt Card. Published in the Federal Register, December 8, 1975, the proposal also spells out:

-requirements for issuing, renewing, revoking, suspending, or denying the certificates of registration that contractors must have in order to legally furnish migrant farmworkers to growers;

-requirements for registration certificates authorizing migrant worker transporation and housing; and

-procedures for assessing civil money penalties for violation of the law.

Social Security and the Migrant Farmworker:

Most farmworkers are covered by the Social Security Law. The employer of farmworkers is responsible for keeping a record of wages paid to the worker and of making required reports on wages paid. A farmworker's earnings are covered by Social Security if his employer pays him $150 or more in cash wages during the calendar year for agricultural work. His earnings are also covered if he works 20 or more days during the year for cash wages figured on a time basis.

Either the crew leader or the farmer may be the employer depending on the working agreement between the two. In the last analysis the employer is the person who has final control of the workers.

Despite their coverage, many farmworkers do not know their rights under the Social Security Act; nor do they know the value of the benefits that may be paid to them and to their families if earnings stop because of disability, death, or retirement. Also, there has been reported abuse of the workers by employers who may deduct the tax but fail to report it.

Therefore, there is a real need to inform migrant workers of their rights as well as to help them learn how to check on whether reports are being made of their wages and payments are being made on their behalf. Workers and their families who might be eligible for benefits should be referred to local Social Security offices.

Unemployment Compensation:

From Washington, D.C. comes word that unemployment compensation for farmworkers has been extended to March 31, 1977. Under the Emergency Compensation and Special Unemployment Assistance Extension Act, farmworkers, domestic and state or local government workers not covered under regular state or federal unemployment compensation will receive up to 39 weeks of benefits. This is an increase of thirteen weeks over previous Special Unemployment Assistance (SUA) coverage. Farmworkers, unlike other applicants for unemployment compensation, are required to list all employers in the previous year.

ALIEN LABOR AND IMMIGRATION

Until recently, it seems that the American public cared little about the presence of illegal aliens in their midst. With jobs relatively plentiful, the aliens' impact on the U.S. economy went all but unnoticed. Now, however, with unemployment topping 8% and 20%, there has been an increasing clamor from organized labor and the jobless for their removal from the labor force.

Proposals for tackling the illegal alien problem range from a complete overhaul of the nation's immigration laws to issuance of identification cards to all U.S. citizens. Congress is considering legislation that would make it illegal for employers to hire illegal aliens. While bureaucrats and lawmakers debate these and other measures, illegal aliens continue to flock into this country by the thousands.

No one knows just how many foreigners have slipped across U.S. borders undetected or have remained in this country after their temporary tourist or student visas expired. Today, largely because of recent tightening of immigration quotas, the Immigration and Naturalization Service estimates that there are six to eight million illegal aliens in the U.S. with one million of them employed. Their impact is disproportionately large in major cities, where they are concentrated.

Some cities view the latest figures on illegal aliens skeptically, noting that the I & N S is in the midst of a vigorous campaign to increase its budget. Yet even the skeptics agree that the influx of illegal immigrants has been rising steadily since the mid-1960's. At that time, the federal government placed a quota on immigration from the Western Hemisphere for the first time. The number was set at 120,000 annually compared with the existing quota of 170,000 annually from the Eastern Hemisphere. For these Western Hemisphere immigrants, the waiting period for a permanent resident visa is currently 2½ years. The following table reveals that the total Western Hemisphere immigration has continued to gain steadily since 1969 despite the fixed annual quota.

Immigrants Admitted from the Western Hemisphere, 1965-75

Year Ending June 30	Total	Canada	Mexico	Central America	Caribbean	South America
1965	157,264	38,327	37,969	12,423	37,583	30,962
1967	156,312	23,442	42,371	8,709	65,273	16,517
1969	156,220	18,582	44,623	9,692	59,395	23,928
1971	160,733	13,128	50,103	8,626	68,176	20,700
1972	163,734	10,776	64,040	8,125	61,434	19,359
1973	173,123	8,951	70,141	8,803	64,893	20,335
1974	169,151	7,654	71,586	8,664	58,940	22,307
1975	165,501	7,308	62,205	9,162	63,842	22,984

These trends become more apparent in the following comparison which proves in spite of Canada's decline, the total share of the three areas shown now represents 81% of the Western Hemisphere's immigration whereas a decade ago it was only 70%; thus Central and South America are proportionately reduced.

Percentage Trends of Principal Western Hemisphere Immigrating Areas

Year	Canada	Mexico	Carribean	% of Total
1964	27%	23%	21%	71%
1966	19%	29%	28%	76½
1969	12%	29%	38%	79%
1970	9%	30%	40%	79%
1971	8%	31%	42%	81%
1972	6%	39%	37%	82%
1973	5%	40%	38%	83%
1974	5%	42%	35%	82%
1975	4%	38%	39%	81%

During the mid-1960's, the U.S. abolished the so-called "bracero" program, under which Mexican seasonal farmworkers were allowed to come to this country temporarily, and began tightening up on the number of "job applications" or work permits it granted. (Highly skilled workers get preference; a study based on 1970 data showed that 32% of the work permits were issued for professional or technical jobs, while household service and farm jobs accounted for less than 13% of the permits.)

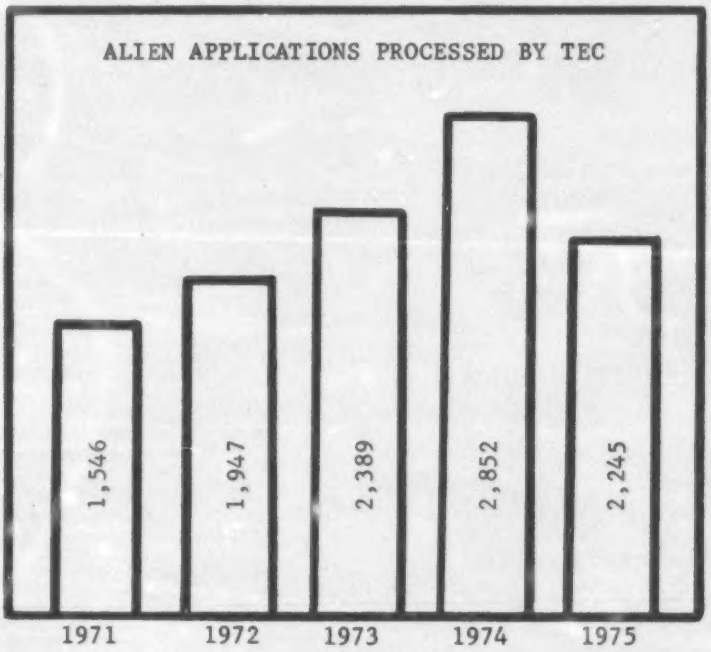
Together, these measures created a sudden explosion of illegal immigrants from the Western Hemisphere. Of the 766,000 illegal aliens apprehended this year, more than 700,000 were from the Western Hemisphere, and 680,000, or about 89% were Mexicans. The following figures, dating from the last year of the Bracero Program in 1964, show with alarming clarity the number of illegal entrants from Mexico.

Deportable Mexican Aliens Located and Percent of Total

1964 —	42,000	50%	1971 —	348,000	83%
1966 —	92,000	65%	1972 —	430,000	85%
1968 —	151,700	71%	1973 —	577,000	88%
1970 —	277,000	80%	1974 —	710,000	91%
			1975 —	680,000	89%

Many of the illegal aliens found working held industrial jobs, where they often earn respectable—and sometimes high—salaries. It is a myth that everyone of the illegals in the U.S. is chopping lettuce or picking grapes, since they are causing an impact on all levels. Immigration authorities have found illegal aliens working as $5-an-hour janitors; $6-an-hour butchers, and $13.50-an-hour denture makers.

As can be seen in the following graph, the Texas Employment Commission continued with its participation in processing alien applications for legal entry into the United States in 1975. Even though the number of alien applicants this year showed a decrease, many individuals continued to go through the complex process that leads eventually to approval or rejection.



Even those pressing hardest for removal of illegal aliens from the U.S. work force concede that not all the jobs vacated by foreigners would necessarily be filled by unemployed U.S. workers.For if some illegal aliens take home good salaries, many do undesirable jobs at pay too low to attract many American workers. Of 4,776 employed illegal aliens apprehended in five major U.S. cities in June, fewer than half were earning $2.50 an hour or more.

Within the I&NS, the U.S. Border Patrol, which was first established in 1924, has the primary function of preventing the illegal entry of aliens and the apprehension of those who have entered illegally and those who smuggle these illegal entrants. The Border Patrol has approximately 1,700 agents, who are well-trained law enforcement officers, and of these about 80 percent are assigned along our southern border with Mexico.

The number of deportable aliens apprehended by the Border Patrol (which makes the great majority of apprehensions) nationally has grown from 38,861 during fiscal 1963 to 602,249 in fiscal 1975. However, the U.S. Supreme Court has put new shackles on the

Border Patrol by further restricting its power to stop and search motor vehicles at checkpoints along the U.S.-Mexico border. In unanimous rulings during June, the Court ruled that the Patrol may not stop vehicles in the border area "at will", but must have reason to suspect that the vehicles contain aliens who are entering the U.S. illegally. In Texas, under jurisdiction of the 5th Circuit Court the Border Patrol continues to operate the inland stations. The major difference is that they had been checking automobile trunks on reasonable suspicion; now they need probable cause. It is the opinion of this writer that the ruling is going to make things much harder on the Border Patrol and much easier for the smuggler.

The illegal traffic is now almost more than the Border Patrol can cope with. Although trying valiantly to stem the flow with detection technologies, more surface and air patroling, and more use of informers, the battle is not being won.

Work Load of the BORDER PATROL
(figures in thousands)

	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975
Conveyances Examined	1,792	2,024	2,473	2,666	2,905	3,470
Persons Questioned	6,805	7,664	9,024	9,507	10,202	11,265
Narcotics Seizures	$3.865	$5,379	$11,708	$23,464	$45,056	$2,153

Since 1970, the number of illegal Mexican aliens in the United States who have been apprehended has been growing at a rate in excess of 20 percent per year. The increasingly large number of Mexican nationals seeking to illegally enter this country reflects the substantial unemployment and underemployment in Mexico—fueled by one of the highest birth rates in the world. Moreover, Mexican employment statistics are not likely to improve dramatically since 45 percent of Mexico's population is under 15 years of age and, therefore, will soon be attempting to enter the labor market. The following statistics from the annual report of the Immigration and Naturalization Service clearly indicate the magnitude of this problem from a national perspective.

ILLEGAL ALIENS LOCATED BY THE BORDER PATROL
Selected Years Ending June 30

	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975
Deportable Aliens Located	231,116	302,517	373,896	503,936	640,913	602,249
Mexican Aliens	219,254	290,152		480,588	616,630	579,448
Canadian Aliens	7,786	7,512	355,099	8,669	7,392	7,253
All Others	4,076	4,853	8,245	8,866	10,755	10,095
			6,151			
Smugglers of Aliens Located	3,298	3,814		6,355	8,074	6,860
			4,565			
Aliens Previously Expelled	67,440	90,402	115,758	152,441	182,351	184,610

Further prompting Mexican nationals to seek employment in the United States is the fact that there is a significant disparity in wage rates between this country and Mexico. In the cities bordering the southwestern states of the U.S. the average daily wage is about $3.40 per day. The minimum wage is even lower for workers in the interior of Mexico. The average worker in Mexico, assuming he can find work, earns in a day as much as he can make in only a few hours in the United States. In addition, it is estimated that the per capita income of the poorest 40 percent of the Mexican population, the strata most likely to leave their homeland in search of a better life in the U.S., is less than $150 per year.

The opportunities available to Mexican aliens have traditionally been in agriculture. While still true in many parts of the U.S.—Southwest—, in recent years the pattern has changed and more and more illegal aliens are obtaining employment in service and manufacturing sectors of our economy. These aliens are increasingly found in virtually all regions of the country and in all segments of the economy.

An immediate legislative remedy for the illegal-alien problem is not in sight. A federal law designed to prevent them from using Social Security cards to get work has been only minimally effective since it took effect in 1974. Though Social Security cards can be issued to aliens for such limited purposes as opening a bank account, the government set up an intricate checking system to prevent them from using the cards to apply for jobs as well. But many aliens have disregarded the law, figuring that the bureaucracy would be slow to catch up with them. Other job seekers used forged cards or give fictitious Social Security numbers.

Representative Peter Rodino (D-N.J.) has introduced a bill (HR 982) that would bar employers from "knowingly" hiring illegal aliens. The House passed the bill twice, in the 92nd and 93rd Congress, but both times it died in the Senate immigration subcommittee before reaching the floor. It is back for a third try in 1975, being considered by the 94th Congress.

Two states, California and Connecticut, passed measures similar to the Rodino Bill. However, both statues were thrown out by the courts on the grounds that the states had improperly assumed powers vested only with the federal government

Despite vigorous backing from organized labor, the Rodino Bill is opposed by the Farm Bureau and the National Association of Manufacturers, which argue that it is the responsibility of the government—not the employer—to keep tabs on aliens within the U.S. borders.

A number of liberal groups have voiced concern that the move to oust illegal aliens from the U.S. may lead employers to discriminate against legitimate aliens. They suggest that illegal aliens currently in this country be granted amnesty and that crackdowns be directed only against those who try to enter U.S. illegally in the future.

Other legislation which would make unlawful the employment of illegal aliens has been reported out of Committee to the House of Representatives. The bill is HR 8713, a more restrictive version than previous proposals which passed the House in previous sessions. In brief, HR 8713 provides that the Attorney General can cite an employer for hiring an illegal alien and impose a civil penalty on subsequent violations. A criminal

penalty would be levied for a violation following a civil penalty. While the bill makes it unlawful to hire an illegal alien, it also proposes penalties for discrimination in hiring.

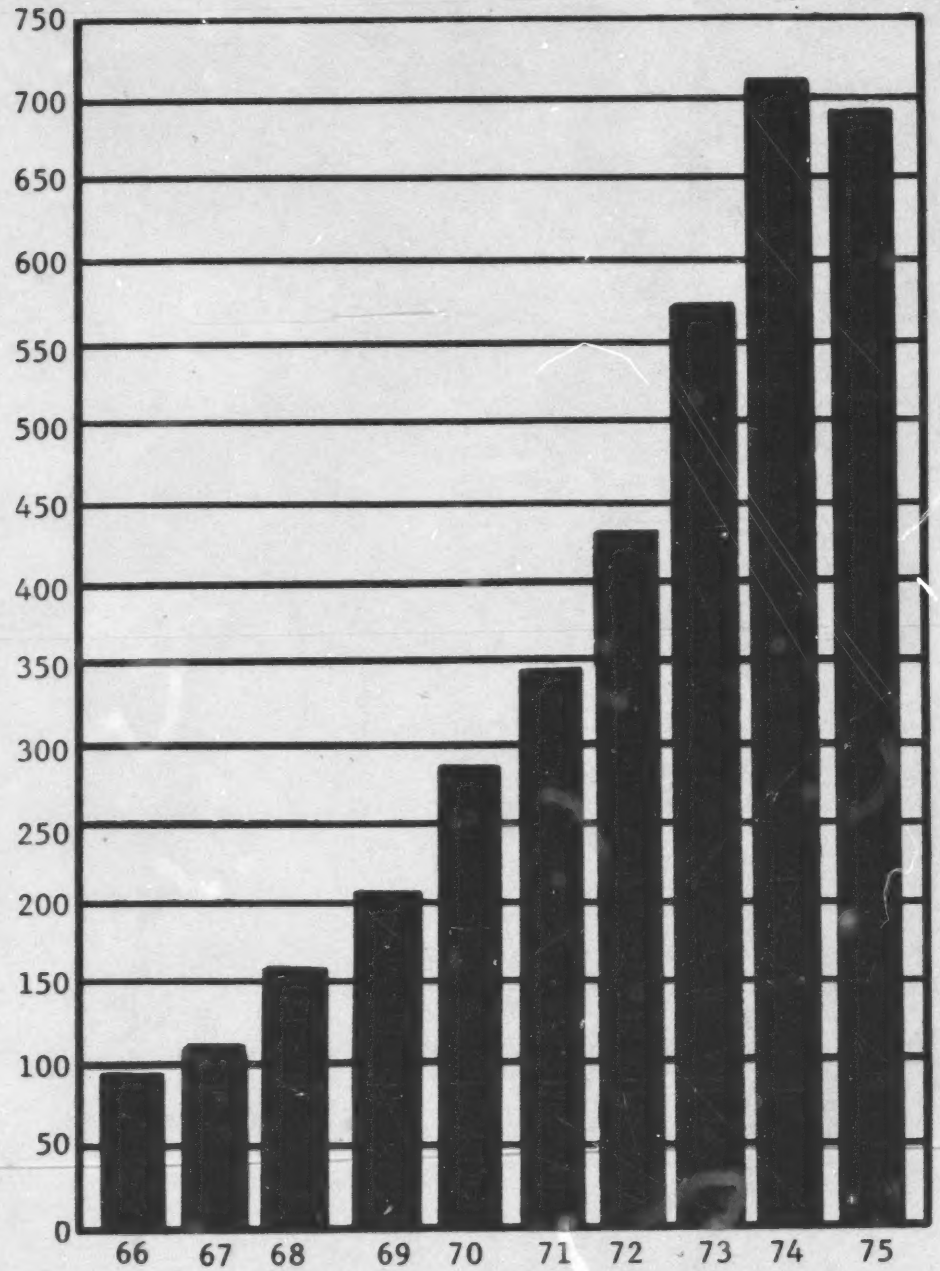
Another bill introduced is S 1928, making unlawful the hiring of an illegal alien. Under provisions in the Senate bill, an employee would be considered to be a legal alien if he or she had a Social Security card.

A study done for the U.S. Department of Labor and released last year, recommends a number of revisions in the immigration law. Among those relating to illegal aliens: (1) restricting or expanding the flow of legal immigrants depending on U.S. economic conditions; (2) more judicious issuance of visas to persons, such as students, who are likely to work illegally; and (3) denying work permits to anyone working illegally at the time an application for job certification is filed.

The flow of illegal workers creates a series of social and economic problems for border areas. Border towns on both sides are crowed and growing, with corresponding major stress being placed upon locally provided services such as health care, sanitation, and education. On the U.S. side, the existence of a flooded labor market means lower wages of all workers, but particularly for marginal or semi-skilled workers. Trade union organization is virtually impossible and competition for available jobs is high. With a large and ever-increasing poor population, the tax burden for support of services continues to fall upon the same number, but increasingly smaller percentage of the population. Yet as economic conditions are still more attractive north of the border, the labor market continues to become more crowded.

For a Mexican national along the border, the attractions of the northern side pose rewards with light punishment. All kinds of expressions of affluence are available with only the threat of deportation in the way.

DEPORTABLE MEXICAN ALIENS FOUND IN THE UNITED STATES 1966-1975
(figures in thousands)



Are Alien Children Entitled to Education?

In response to a letter from the Texas Education Agency asking whether alien children whose parents are illegally domiciled in the state may go to school, the Texas Attorney General wrote in Opinion H-586: "Attorney General Opinion No. 2138, Book 55, p. 338 (1921) held that 'alien children have the same right to attend the public free schools of the state as do the children of citizens of this State. The then existing statutes, article 2899, 2900, Revised Civil Statutes of 1911, contained language almost identical to that of Section 21.031 of the Education Code, including the terms 'every child' and 'all children.' While it is unclear from the Opinion whether the child in question was a legal or illegal alien, in our view the reasoning expressed is applicable in either instance." The Opinion further states.

"The Legislature has made no effort to alter this holding through statutory amendment. We believe the words 'all' and 'every' as contained in Section 21.031 of the Education Code do not permit exceptions to be created by local school boards.

"Whether the Legislature itself may establish an exception for illegal aliens has not been decided by the higher courts. While we recognize that the U.S. Supreme Court could sustain such an exercise of legislative power, the existing case law indicates that the rights of illegal aliens are protected by 42 U.S.C.A. 1981 and the Fourteenth Amendment to the U. S. Constitution."

In summary, "Under Section 21.031 of the Education Code, alien children within the state are entitled to attend public school in the district of their residence regardless of whether they may be 'legally' or 'illegally' within the United States."

After this Opinion was issued, the Legislature lost no time in amending the statute. It now reads that "all children who are citizens of the United States or legaliy admitted aliens" are entitled to go to school.

A House subcommittee on alien education has directed the Texas Education Agency to gather information from the state's seven largest school districts on the number of alien sutdents in their schools. The subcommittee held an orientation session in November with agency staff to define problems and determine what kind of information is needed to solve them. One problem, addressed by several staff members, is that one child in a family may be legally entitled to a free education in the state because he or she was born in the U.S. However, that child's brother's and sisters born in Mexico, are not covered by the free schooling provisions of state law.

U.S. Plans To Issue I.D. Cards:

More than 11 million persons who live or work in the United States may soon be required to carry special identification cards like those now required in most others countries. The first to be issued, counterfeit-proof I.D. cards, will probably be to some 5 million aliens who either live in this country or cross the border daily to work.

The U.S. is one of the relatively few nations in the world where the requirement for a national identity card has been vigorously and successfully resisted. Now, that resistance seems to be breaking down. With little debate, Congress recently provided $4.7 million to the Immigration and Naturalization Service to begin producing and testing an identification card to be issued to resident aliens and those who cross the border to work. The test should take several months and then a decision on whether to require such cards can be made, an official of the I&NS reported.

The Immigration Service already has done considerable research in developing a card with a magnetic number that would be virtually impossible to counterfeit. Cards now issued to aliens who cross the borders to work are easily duplicated.

While the plan under study would require only those aliens who are legally in this country to carry the identification card, consideration also has been given to issue such cards to everyone legally in the United States—citizens as well as aliens. It would then be much more difficult than it is now for aliens illegally here to go undetected. It should be noted that, even though the I&NS has no authority over citizens and has no plans to request any such authority, their interest is limited to aliens. Immigration officials also stress that the new system, call ADIT (Alien Documentation Telecommunications) will not impose on legally resident aliens any new or additional burdens.

Organizational Structure of the Office of Investigations:

As part of the realignment of the mission and operational functions of the investigative branch of the United States Customs Service, the name of the Customs Agency Service has been changed to the Office of Investigations and the organizational structure of its domestic field offices and Customs foreign offices has been realigned. The Office of Investigations is responsible for conducting investigations of violations of Customs and related laws and of potential frauds against the revenue, and for detecting and apprehending violators of Customs and related laws. In addition, the office conducts fact-finding investigations to develop information for the use of other branches of the Customs Service in reaching decisions within assigned spheres of responsibility, and manages and operates all Customs Service foreign offices.

As part of the organizational realignment of the Office of Investigations, a new domestic field office structure, aligned to existing Customs regions and districts, has been established. In addition, the area of jurisdiction of Customs foreign offices has been more clearly defined.

Committee on Border Trade and Tourism:

The Senate of the 64th Legislature of the State of Texas, created a special committee (under Resolution 377) to begin immediately an investigation of the alleged undue hindrance of trade and tourism by the United States Border Patrols of the Federal Immigration and Naturalization Service and by the United States Bureau of Customs.

The Special committee is composed of five members of the Senate who were appointed by the Lieutenant Governor. The committee has been given the power to issue process to witnesses at any place in the state, to compel their attendance and the production of all books, records, and instruments; to issue attachments where necessary to obtain compliance with subpoenas or other process, which may be addressed to and served by any peace officer in this state. The special committee will be making a complete report, including findings and recommendations, to the Lieutenant Governor and Senate of the State of Texas as soon as possible after the completion of the investigation.

The first meeting of the committee was held on September 19 in Laredo. Consequent public hearings were to be held in El Paso, Del Rio and the Lower Rio Grande Valley.

REVIEW OF MIGRANT LEGISLATION

Legislation and its enactment into law is the end result of an attempt to resolve or satisfy an issue inevitably brought about from necessities. Some necessities are imagined as such by their sponsors but most frequently, within the realm of socio-economics, they are real as in the case of the migrant and seasonal farmworker and his present situation in society. However, many factors affecting living and working conditions of Texas migrant agricultural workers are basic, fundamental problems that cannot be corrected within a short period of time regardless of the amount of money appropriated or the stringency of the laws passed.

Farmwork has such a multiplicity of ramifications that it just naturally tends to resist legislation. Legislation, on the other hand, must be all encompassing, workable in all possible circumstances and to the benefit of the majority. The bringing together of these anomalies has spawned a multitude of ideas, bills and proposals from government representatives, agencies, educators, social workers, labor experts, etc., but little of this effort has been productive although the strides that have been made are positive and in the right direction.

In our state legislature, in both House and Senate, a number of bills have been presented and sent to committee in recent years; however, the majority of them were not reported out of committee or voted on. It should be recognized however, that the 64th Legislature, which met this year, passed one urgently needed piece of corrective legislation—the Licensing of Migrant Labor Camps.

Since the 54th Texas Legislature in 1955, the success rate of migrant oriented legislation has been less than encouraging to its proponents. Each major bill introduced had to be resubmitted in two or three successive sessions before given serious consideration. This fact may be attributed to the seniment against migrant labor problems in the legislature at the time the measures were introduced. Following is an analysis of all the bills passed and rejected from the fifty-fourth legislative session to the present concerning migrant and seasonal farmworkers in the areas of health, education, housing, transportation, welfare and social services.

Legislation Proposed by Session Involving Migrant Labor and Related Problems

Bill No.	54th Legislature - 1955	Status
SCR 73	To request the Texas Legislative Council to study the transportation of migrants—To report back during 55th Legislature	Passed

Bill No.	55th Legislature - 1957	Status
SB 343	Appropriation to Texas Education Agency for Vocational Rehabilitation	Referred
HB 70	Rehabilitation of Slums and Blighted Areas-Kenard	Passed
HB 434	Authorizing State Department of Health to provide assistance for towns of 25,000 or less-Cox	Passed
HB 454	Forming City-County Health Units—Amend Art. 4436a-1, Vernons of 46th Legislature; Spec. Session, White	Passed
SCR 13	To condemn certain action for imposing certain standards in regard to housing of Mexican National Workers	Passed
HB 517	Amending Art. 5155 Revised Civil Statutes of Texas, 1925; makes its provisions relating to employees' wages apply to every person	Passed
	56th Legislature - 1959	
HB 51	Authorizing a pre-school instruction program for non-English speaking children-McGregor	Passed
HB 720	Licensing of Regulation of Crew Leaders of Migrant Laborers-Laurel	Died
HB 733	Relative to employment of children over 16 years old-de la Garza	Died
HB 709	Relative to compulsory school age and attendance-Laurel	Died
SCR 58	Favoring Importation of Foreign Labor to ranch and agricultural areas against Department of Labor's wishes	Died
	56th Legis. 1st Call Session - 1959	
HCR 24	Shortage of Domestic Labor Required in Agriculture Production-Heatly	Passed
	57th Legislature - 1961	
HB 203	Employment of Children-de la Garza	Died
HB 668	Child Labor exemption permit-Hale	Died

Bill No.	57th Legislature - 1961 (contd.)	Status
HJR 8	Providing medical assistance for needy children-Roberts	Died
HB 500	Licensing of Migrant Crew Leaders-Kennard	Died
	57th Legis. 3rd Called Session-1962	
HSR 164	Create Interim Committee on Migrant Labor-Kennard	To be reported in 58th Legis.
	58th Legislature - 1963	
HB 165 SB 408	Child Labor Law-de la Garza-Kennard	Passed
HB 331 SB 409	School Attendance Law-Markgraf-Kennard	Passed
HB 791 SB 405	Education for Adult Illiterates-Ligarde-Kennard	Died
SB 410	Crew Leader Licensing-Kennard	Died
SB 411	Labor Camp Housing-Kennard	Died
HB 179	Texas Fair Employment Practices Act-Alaniz	Died
	59th Legislature - 1965	
HB 96 SB 179	Consolidation of Texas Council on Migrant Labor with The Good Neighbor Commission	Passed
SB 130	Transfer of T.B. Hospital from State Board of Hospitals to State Department of Health. Sec. 6—all migratory workers shall furnish a certificate attesting to having been examined for T.B.	Passed
HB 78	Relating to a required pre-school program for non-English speaking children as part of the Minimum Foundation Program-Alaniz	Died
HB 51	Raising Age for Compulsory School Attendance to 17 years-Harrison	Passed
	60th Legislature - 1967	
HB 719	Relates to teaching Spanish in Elementary Schools-Wayne	Died
HB 498	Medical Assistance Act of Texas-Heatly	Died

Bill No.	61st Legislature - 1969	Status
HB 436	Rules for Transportation of Migrant Workers-Cruz	Passed
HB 103	Declaring State Policy on Bilingual Education-Truan	Passed
HB 432	Advisory Council for Study of Problem of Language Handicap-Wright	Passed
HCR 128	Health, Welfare and Agriculture Department, Emergency Food and Commodity	Died
HB 161	To provide for the operation of non-English speaking children programs for certain time in Public schools-Longoria	Passed
HB 1081	Creation of Texas State Board of Housing-Orr	Died
HB 610	Franchise tax-exempt for certain non-profit organizations for rural rental Housing Projects	Died
HSR 373	Governor's Interim Committee on Mexican-American Affairs-Sanchez-McKissack	Died
	62nd Legislature - 1971	
HB 1254	Licensing of Migrant Labor Camps-Cruz	Passed
HB 38	Establish Texas Housing Corporation Act; assist financing for lower income housing-Kubiak	Died
HB 853	Establishment of a Food Stamp Program-Heatly	Passed
HB 964	I.D. Cards for Welfare Recipients-Poerner	Died
HB 1570	Day Care For Working Mothers receiving State Aid-Farenthold	Died
HJR 14	Cooperation Between State and U.S. for Funds for assistance of certain needy people-Truan	Died
HB 1024	Bilingual training institutes; instruction material and salaries for bilingual Education Teachers-Truan	Died
HB 466	Establish Texas Commission on Service to Children and Youth-Finney	Passed
HB 338	Establish Texas Industrial Training Council-Finney	Died
HB 495	Bilingual Education in Public Schools-Truan	Died

Bill No.	62nd Legislature (contd.)	Status
HB 1749	Mandatory Spanish for school districts with 10% or more Spanish Surname-Ogg	Died
SB 222	Supplemental Aid to adults with no high school prerequisite for developing a saleable skill	Died
SB 556 HB 1172	Establish an occupational skill center jurisdiction; develop a comprehensive-coordinated tech-voc plan-Jungmichel	Died
	63rd Legislature - 1973	
HB 147 SB 210	Adult Educational Supplemental Aid program for certain person-Truan-Brooks	Passed
SB 121	Relating to Bilingual Education Programs in Schools-Brooks	Passed
SB 154	Relating to teaching Spanish in certain school districts-Ogg	Died
SB 464	Relating to testing of students for assignment to special education classes-Brooks-Truan	Passed
HB 365	Relating to exemption of certain children from compulsory attendance at public schools-Denton	Passed
HB 1220 SB 699	Creation of Occupational Skill Center Jurisdiction-Kubiak-Brooks	Died
HB 1129	Cultural Basin Act of 1973-Truan	Passed
HB 724 SB 289	Exempting Certain employees from Texas Minimum Wage Act of 1970 & Amt of Minimum Wage-Scoggins-Mauzy	Died
HB 1094	Relating to establishment of State Food Stamp Program-Truan	Died

In 1975, the Legislative Committee of the Inter-Agency Task Force on Migrant Labor, chaired by the Good Neighbor Commission, took a leading role in recommending legislation to improve the living and working conditions of Texas migrant farmworkers and their families. Through the Governor's Public Service Intern Program, the Good Neighbor Commission acquired the services of a student intern to research, develop and draft the proposals recommended by the Legislative Committee. These efforts were to culminate in a series of finished bills to be introduced in the 64th Legislature: (1) an amendment to the Labor Camp Law, (2) a bill providing for grants to upgrade labor camp housing, and (3) a resolution calling for a constitutional amendment permitting the state to give grants for labor camp construction. An additional bill favorable to the Department

of Labor and Standards, amending the existing Labor Agency Law, was not drafted by the Legislative Committee but was, however, endorsed by the Task Force. Following is an analysis of the bills drafted by the Legislative Committee:

Senate Bill No. 398 by Sen. Raul Longoria
House Bill No. 644 by Rep. Tony Garcia

A Bill to be Entitled an Act relating to licensing migrant labor camps; amending Section 1, 6, 10 and 11, Chapter 788, Acts of the 62d Legislature, Regular Session, 1971, (Article 522le-1, Vernon's Texas Civil Statues)

Acceptance of this amendment closed some of the loopholes opened by the diverse interpretation in the existing legislation. This bill redefined "labor camp" by excluding the use of tents. Those farmers hiring two or more migrants must comply with the law while the existing law excluded those with fifteen or less workers. The proposed amendment applied not only to farmers but to other related industries such as canning and cotton ginning. Approximately three hundred and thirty-five additional camps in Texas will have to adhere to the health laws now that this amendment passed. Additionally, the bill makes it possible to prosecute violators outside of the county in which the labor camp is located; it increases penalties for those who do not register their camps and it reduces jail sentences for those workers convicted of vandalism (Passed and signed on June 19, 1975).

Senate Bill No. 483 by Sen. Raul Longoria
House Bill No. 1559 by Rep. Tony Garcia

A Bill to be Entitled an Act relating to the establishment of a grant program for construction of migrant labor camps to be administered by the Department of Health Resources

Many of those providing agricultural housing find that funds for labor camps are difficult to obtain due to their small margin of profit, if there is any profit. The grant would have been aimed at the provider who wants to comply with health regulations but finds it economically infeasible. The Department of Health Resources is concerned only with the health conditions and not with who is responsible for obtaining funds to correct the situation. Since that Department has an inspection program for labor camps, the Task Force members agreed that this agency should administer the program.

The grants proposal is a deviation from a similar Michigan program. Comparatively, the Texas grant would be a fund-matching program in which the State matches on a 50-50 basis the construction expense for improving farm labor housing. The maximum grant allowed would be $20,000. (Died)

62

Senate Joint Resolution No. 41 by Sen. Raul Longoria
House Joint Resolution No. 75 by Rep. Tony Garcia

A Joint Resolution proposing an amendment to Article III, of the Texas Constitution, to permit the State to provide grants for the construction of migrant labor camps

This amendment simply would have authorized the Department of Health Resources to receive and administer grants for upgrading labor housing as provided in the preceding bill summary. (Died)

The Inter-Agency Task Force on Migrant Labor will continue to promote interstate coordination on migrant affairs and to strive for consistent and effective delivery of services to the migrants throughout the nation, and further: (1) to provide a framework for participating agencies to work together in defining and solving shared problems; (2) to be of mutual assistance in defining the need for and the development of legislation designed to improve the "travel and living conditions of migrant laborers in Texas"; and (3) to share information on significant migrant programs operated or sponsored by groups or organizations other than the member State agencies.

SELECTED PROGRAMS AND AGENCIES

Comprehensive Employment and Training Act:

It is the purpose of Title III, Section 303 of the Comprehensive Employment and Training Act (CETA) to provide manpower and other services for those individuals who suffer chronic seasonal unemployment and underemployment in the agriculture industry, which has been substantially affected by recent advances in technology and mechanization. These individuals constitute a substantial portion of the nation's rural manpower problem and substantially affect the entire national economy.

Because of the special nature of the problem faced by migrant and seasonal farmworkers, the programs developed and implemented under this section of the Act are administered by the Manpower Administration at the national level. Such programs are flexible in design and have these primary objectives:

(a) Alternatives to agricultural labor - Provision of services to migrant and other seasonally employed farmworkers and their families who wish to seek alternative job opportunities to seasonal farmwork, which will equip them to compete in other labor markets and to secure stable year-round employment providing an income above the poverty level.

(b) Improved agricultural life style - Provision of services necessary to improve the well-being of migrants and other seasonally employed farmworkers and their families who remain in the agricultural labor market and/or to upgrade their skills to enable them to take advantage of job opportunities created by changing agricultural technology.

About 80 percent ($51.6 million) of the $63.2 million available in FY'75 funds for farmworkers was allocated to individual States for diversified programs of manpower and supportive services. The allocations were based on a formula which provided each State with at least 90 percent of its FY'74 obligations under the Economic Opportunity Act (Title III-B) and the Manpower Development and Training Act (National Migrant Worker Program).

In 1975, the Division of Migrant Programs, DOL, negotiated with five recipients of Title III monies in the State of Texas with a total funding of $5.3 million. The five organizations and their funding levels, with corresponding areas of responsibility were as follows:

1. Program Sponsor:
   Associated City/County Economic Opportunity Development Corporation of Hidalgo County
   Funding Level:
   $1.6 million
   Counties Served by Grant
   Hidalgo, Willacy, Cameron and Jim Hogg

p. 64 blank

2. Program Sponsor:
Community Action Council of South Texas
Funding Level:
$400,000
Counties Served by Grant:
Starr and Zapata

3. Program Sponsor:
Economic Opportunity Development Council
Funding Level:
$600,000
Counties Served by Grant:
Bexar, Atascosa, Bandera, Comal, Frio, Gillespie, Guadalupe, Karnes, Kendall, Kerr, Wilson and Medina

4. Program Sponsor:
Coastal Bend Migrant Council
Funding Level:
$900,000
Counties Served by Grant:
Nueces, San Patricio, Brooks, Jim Wells, Live Oak, Bee, Kennedy, Kleberg, Refugio, Aransas, McMullen, and Duval

5. Program Sponsor:
Manpower, Education &Training, Inc.: Subcontract with: Chicanos Unidos Campesinos
Funding Level:
$1.8 million
Counties Served by Grant:
The subcontract covered Crosby County. The main grant was centered in Cleveland (Liberty Co.) and provided manpower training and relocation opportunities for farmworkers from surrounding counties as well as from Webb and Maverick Counties.

Of all the categorical programs for farmworkers, those administered by the Department of Labor (DOL) seem to provide the largest range of options, including not only the manpower and manpower-supportive programs authorized under Section 303 of CETA, but all of the programs and services authorized under Section III-B of the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964, as amended. Child care, economic development housing, health, legal aid, transportation and education - all are authorized for eligible farmworkers and their families. The only service DOL cannot provide is education for school-age children.

The regulations concerning the types of programs which will be funded are likewise broad in scope, ranging from various types of manpower and manpower-related activities, to education, day care, medical services, nutritional services, and emergency assistance, to list a few. Some funded projects also operate housing projects, both temporary and permanent housing, and economic development activities. Thus, in theory at least, the Department of Labor could fund any activity, other than public service employment (barred by the regulations), which met either of its stated goals of providing alternatives to agricultural labor or of improving agricultural life style.

The Employment and Training Administration (ETA) of the DOL, formerly the Manpower Administration, announced in the Federal Register on November 21, 1975, the potential sponsors designated to provide services to migrant and seasonal farmworkers with allocable funds authorized under CETA, Section 303 for calendar 1976. DOL has notified 44 organizations seeking funds for job training and supportive services for migrant and seasonal farmworkers that they are potential recipients of $53.9 million in grants for this coming year. Each applicant so designated as a potential sponsor shall be notified in writing of the amount of funds which may be granted, the target area to be served, the items to be negotiated, and the time and place of negotiations. Potential sponsor designations in Texas include the following:

(1) Economic Opportunities Development Corporation (EODC) of San Antonio and Bexar County in San Antonio;
(2) Associated City-County Economic Development Corporation (ACCEDC) of Hidalgo County in Edinburg;
(3) Manpower, Education and Training, Inc. (MET), in Cleveland; and
(4) Community Action Council (CAC) of South Texas in Rio Grande City

Applicants in Texas whose funding requests were not selected by the Secretary are as follows:

(1) Governor's Office of Migrant Affairs (GOMA) in Austin; and
(2) Coastal Bend Migrant Council, (CBMC) Inc., in Corpus Christi

The Employment and Training Administration has decided to no longer fund directly the High School Equivalency Program (HEP) and College Assistance Migrant Program (CAMP), and Migrant Rest Stop Centers. These projects will have to secure funding from the designated sponsors for the 1976 program year to continue operations after their current grants terminate. Rest centers, HEP and CAMP are allowable activities for a program sponsor's use of allocable funds.

It is the intent and the desire of the Employment and Training Administration to provide for comprehensive program planning at the State and local level of those activities and services deemed desirable as well as to provide a more equitable distribution of available resources.

Farmworker Census:

About 30 participants of the Governor's Office of Migrant Affairs (GOMA) are helping staff a project to collect information on the farmworker population of the State and eventually provide this group with outreach services. Individual prime sponsors throughout the State have provided the needed Title VI participants, several of whom are financed by the Balance of the State grant.

The Governors Office of Migrant Affairs, since October of this year, has been canvassing all 254 counties in the State. The State Manpower Services Council (SMSC) provided GOMA with $100,000 to cover costs of training, development of the survey instrument, and supportive services. The identification survey is one of several studies the Council has funded from its own budget to provide its members and staff with specific information.

The project began in Austin, where the participants predominantly professional and Spanish-speaking, were trained. In addition to learning how to conduct the survey, they received instruction in use of the questionnaire, which was designed to determine if farmworkers are being adequately and effectively served by the Comprehensive Employment and Training Act (CETA) programs.

The survey should take about six months to complete, at which time the census takers will be brought back to Austin for additional training. This will enable them to perform follow-up services and act as ombudsmen in, among others, those service areas which the survey discloses are deficient.

Juarez-Lincoln Information Clearinghouse:

Another supplementary project is the Juarez-Lincoln National Farmworker Information Clearinghouse located in Austin, Texas. The clearinghouse's specific functions are to collect, analyze, compare, and disseminate information affecting seasonal agricultural workers - for instance data on crops, population, schools, and agencies providing service to migrant laborers.

Thus, it serves as a communications center for farmworker programs and storehouse of pertinent published materials, including 3,000 project proposals which demonstrate the variety of ideas and approaches being explored all over the country to meet the needs of this group. All the materials the Clearinghouse itself produces are available to the public for a small printing and mailing fee. The Clearinghouse serves as a reference and information referral center for the Migrant Worker Services Divison of the Department of Labor and for grantees of the Comprehensive Employment Training Act, migrant projects (CETA-III, Section 303).

Work Incentive (WIN):

From Washington comes word that the Work Incentive program found 170,000 unsubsidized jobs for welfare recipients in fiscal year 1975—only 4 percent fewer than the year before, despite unfavorable economic conditions.

WIN, which helps employable recipients of Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) get jobs and become self-sufficient, is jointly administered by the Social and Rehabilitation Service, Department of Health, Education and Welfare, and the Employment and Training Administration (formerly the Manpower Administration), Department of Labor. A report on program results for the year ending June 30 showed:

—In 46 percent of the 113,300 placements lasting 90 days or longer, the new jobs holders earned enough to leave welfare altogether; in the other 54 percent the workers continued receiving assistance—but at a reduced amount—because of large families or other special needs.

—The average hourly starting pay for all jobs was $2.94 for men and $2.42 for women.

—Placements in manufacturing jobs declined, and placements in clerical and sales work, service employment, and professional, technical, and managerial jobs increased.

—Two thirds of all placements were made without the need for prior training.

—Of two million adult recipients entering or already in the program, almost 600,000 received services to improve employability, such as vocational training for 90,800; on the job training for 37,200; work experience for 19,200; and public service employment for 14,400.

—Child care service was provided for more than 100,000 families; other supportive services initiated were home management aid for 106,000; family planning for 55,700; and remedial medical care for 37,500.

To be eligible for assistance, all AFDC applicants must register for WIN except children under 16 attending school full time; persons who are ill, incapacitated, or elderly; persons too remote from a WIN project to take part; persons needed at home to care for invalids or children under six; and mothers or female caretakers of a child if the father or other male relative in the home has registered. Exempt AFDC recipients may volunteer for WIN.

In the joint administration of WIN by the Departments of HEW and Labor, staff from the two have been consolidated in national and regional offices. Similarly, state and local WIN offices are staffed by personnel from the state's employment service and public welfare agencies. The program operates in every state, through more than 300 local projects.

During fiscal 1975, the WIN program spent about $350 million. The federal government contributes 90 percent of WIN expenditures, and the states 10 percent. WIN was established by Congress under the 1967 amendments to the Social Security Act and revised in 1971 to put further stress on job referral.

South Texas Projects Funded:

Several members of La Federacion de Organizaciones del Valle, a coalition of organizations in the South Texas area, have received grants to implement various projects aimed at benefiting the Spanish-speaking community there. People United for Better Life in Community (PUBLIC), based in Harlingen, Texas, has received a $52,500 grant from the Texas Education Agency to implement Project BOS (Bilingual Oral Skills), a childhood development program for migrant children. The Project Policy Council, which is made up of Organizaciones Unidas, Nutrition and Enrichment Programs, the Texas Farm Workers Union, and La Federación de Organizaciones del Valle, has been awarded a $25,000 grant from the Campaign for Human Development to begin work on Project MOR. The goal of the Project is to coordinate and establish communication linkages on the local, regional, and national and international levels between organizations that deal with immigration. CHD also provided $67,000 in funds to Comunidades Unidas Por Mejoramiento to implement a project that would work with migrant health in the Delta area of the valley.

Community Food and Nutrition Program:

The Community Services Administration (formerly the Office of Economic Opportunity), in 1975, awarded grants totaling $1.8 million under the Community Food and Nutrition Program (CFNP) to seven "conduit" agencies across the country for implementation of local nutrition-related projects for migrant and seasonal farmworkers.

The Associated City-County Economic Development Corporation of Hidalgo County (ACCEDC), one of the seven primary grantees for the CFNP across the country, received a grant for $290,000 to provide emergency or short term assistance to migrant farmworkers and their families in Texas and New Mexico.

Policies for Food Assistance

1. Eligibility: Recipients shall be eligible based upon the following criteria:
   A. Employed on a seasonal basis in agriculturally related work, including family members; earn at least 50% of annual income from agricultural labor; and have incomes below established CSA poverty guidelines.
   B. Based upon a self-declaration of need, without "means test" requirements.
   C. No other source of financial assistance is available.

2. Services:
   A. Direct Food Assistance may be provided on the basis of the following criteria:
      1. When other sources (Federal Food Programs) are unavailable.
      2. For a maximum amount per family not to exceed $50 for the duration of the grant period.
   B. Assistance with purchasing food stamps may be provided to cover all or part of the purchase cost. The maximum amount provided per family may not exceed $100 for the duration of the grant period.
   C. The total combined amount for direct food assistance and/or purchase of food stamps shall not exceed $100 for the duration of the grant period.

In all cases where provisions of services are made through a Vendor (Food Stamps, Food Banks, Co-op stores, Welfare Departments, Post Offices, Banks, etc.), a voucher system will be utilized. The voucher system provides protection both to the provider and the vendor, and an accurate method of approach toward fiscal accountability.

Service, Employment, Redevelopment (SER):

Operation Service, Employment, Redevelopment is a national manpower development and placement program designed to serve the Spanish-speaking people in the United States. Administered by Jobs for Progress, Inc., a non-profit corporation, SER is funded principally by three major agencies of the Federal government: the Department

of Labor, the Office of Economic Opportunity, and the Department of Health, Education and Welfare. SER extends its resources throughout the country, assisting a variety of local programs and upgrading the economic opportunities of Spanish-speaking Americans.

SER was formed on June 10, 1968 through the joint funding of the Department of Labor and the Office of Economic Opportunity. Prior to the formation of SER, the League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC) had been operating job placement centers for the Spanish-speaking Houston and Corpus Christi, Texas. As a result of this successful experience, LULAC united with another national Spanish-speaking organization, the American G.I. Forum, and formed Jobs for Progress, Inc. The manpower program became known as SER, which means "to be" in Spanish.

Today, SER is a dynamic organization which is expanding beyond its original territory to meet the needs of Spanish-speaking people throughout the country. In addition to skills training through a variety of educational institutions and on-the-job training, SER provides the enrollee with supportive services to insure firm placement in a meaningful job. SER is also conducting successful experimental programs developed to provide creative solutions to persistent problems unique to the Spanish-speaking. The basic thrust of the SER activities is to assist the disadvantaged—to improve the quality of their lives, primarily through manpower and related programs designed to upgrade educational and vocational skills, and to open career opportunities in employment.

From its headquarters in Los Angeles, California, the SER National Office assist in the direction of forty manpower projects located in thirteen states. The national office operates three major divisions: Planning, Research and Evaluation; Program Operation; and Program Management Support. As the core of the most extensive and significant self-help employment program ever designed for the benefit of the Spanish-speaking community, the SER National Office looks forward to increased involvement and participation of the community.

The two sponsoring organizations of SER are: (1) The American G.I. Forum, which is a verterans' family organization founded in Corpus Christi, Texas in 1948. Since then, the organization has shown national growth and is highly recognized as a voice for Mexican American people. The American G.I. Forum continues its fight as evidenced by its motto - "Education is Our Freedom and Freedom Should be Everybody's Business", and (2) The League of the United Latin American Citizens (LULAC) which was founded in 1929 to help in the struggle of the Mexican Americans against the social-economic and educational discriminatory practices of the time.

Girl Scout Migrant Communities Project:

The Girl Scout Migrant Project is designed to introduce Girl Scouting into the migrant community. Its main goals are as follows:

1) Extend Scouting to the migrant communities by seeking and field-testing new approaches, methods and techniques that may be necessary.

2) Develop materials aimed at the migrant community.

3) Establish a referral system so that migrant scouts from one council can be referred to other receiving councils in order to provide migrant scouts as much continuity of service as possible.

4) Make all findings and learnings known to all councils having concentrations of migrant families in their jurisdiction.

The number of Girl Scout councils in the project has now risen to approximately 25 and all of them are from the following states: Michigan, Indiana, Ohio, Wisconsin, and Texas. It is intended that after 1977, Girl Scout councils along the East Coast and West Coast migrant streams will also become involved in the Girl Scout Migrant Project.

Since Girl Scout materials aimed at the migrant and seasonal farmworker community do not presently exist, they will be developed by the headquarters staff in San Antonio. Besides providing an informal education to the child (outside the school environment) the Girl Scout program offers migrant adults the opportunity to lead troops, plan and organize activities, and provide leadership. In essence, it will also provide them an informal adult education whose values can be applied to other areas.